REGULAR MEETING **COMMISSION TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS**

Wednesday, June 18, 2025, 1:00 P.M.

County Conference Center

Room 104/106 425 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Vicente Sarmiento, Chair

Supervisor, Second District

Janet Nguyen

Supervisor, First District

Monique Davis

Business Representative

Todd Spitzer

Orange County District Attorney

Richard Afable

Behavioral Health Representative

Lisa Kim

Central Service Planning Area Representative

Susan Parks

Philanthropic Leader Representative

Benjamin Hurst

Faith-Based Community Representative

Kelly Bruno-Nelson

Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan Representative

Robert Morse

Continuum of Care Board Representative

Gina Cunningham, Vice Chair

Affordable Housing Development Representative

Adam Hawley

Chief of Police Representative

Cecilia Bustamante-Pixa

Hospital Representative

Jim Vanderpool

North Service Planning Area Representative

Debra Rose

South Service Planning Area Representative

Jason Ivins

Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Representative

Milo Peinemann

At-Large Representative

Maricela Rios-Faust

Continuum of Care Board Representative

Vacant

Lived Experience Representative

Commission Director

Doug Becht, Director of Care Coordination

Clerk of the Commission

Valerie Sanchez, Chief Deputy Clerk

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: Bruno-Nelson, Bustamante-Pixa, Cunningham, Davis, Hurst, Ivins,

Morse, Nguyen, Parks, Peinemann, Rose, Sarmiento, and Spitzer

ABSENT: Commissioners: Afable, Hawley, Kim, Rios-Faust, Vanderpool

PRESENT: COMMISSION DIRECTOR Doug Becht, Director of Care Coordination

> Valerie Sanchez, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board CLERK OF THE COMMISSION

Call to Order

CHAIR SARMIENTO CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 1:03 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

VICE CHAIR CUNNINGHAM LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Roll Call

CLERK CALLED THE ROLL AND CONFIRMED QUORUM PRESENT

MINUTES - COMMISSION TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS, JUNE 18, 2025 - PAGE 1

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMISSION MEMBERS COMMENTS

Chair Sarmiento – Discussed how the Second District community which he represents as Supervisor is feeling very unsettled by the presence of U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement and the National Guard and the chilling effect it has on the community which will certainly result in not just human impacts but fiscal and economic impacts as well.

Commissioner Cunningham – Discussed challenges finding funding to keep HomeAid Family CareCenter open and operating.

Commissioner Morse – Participates in the Life on the Streets Ministry and reported that due to immigration enforcement activities, they saw a significant shortage in the number of people who usually turn out for food, showers and other essentials because they were too afraid to come out.

Commissioner Ivins – Announced the 2025 Crisis Intervention Teams International Conference will be held in Anaheim on August 11th – 13th; sessions on many topics related to mental health and homelessness; OC Sheriff's Department will be leading a session on Psychiatric Advance Directives.

Commissioner Parks – Discussed perceptions about what homelessness looks like after the story of local artist, Chapman Hamborg, went viral after taking his cranky newborn for a walk and a neighbor phoned police to report a homeless man walking around with a stolen baby; Mr. Hamborg is turning this incident into a positive discussion about shifting perceptions on homelessness through Art and Advocacy hosted by Orange County United Way as an online event on Saturday, June 21st at 9:00 AM; additional information can accessed on Orange County United Way's website.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 1. Commission to Address Homelessness Update
 - a. Membership Ad Hoc

The Membership Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc) updated the application materials for commission membership to include two additional questions to assist the Ad Hoc in evaluating the candidate's experience and involvement in initiatives to address homelessness and making their nominations for appointment; the recruitment for 11 seats will be conducted in two phases, with Phase 1 starting in June and Phase 2 in August.

2. Office of Care Coordination Update

a. OC Outreach & Engagement

Announced that the OC Outreach & Engagement Team (formerly 'Blue Shirts') from OC Health Care Agency will be transitioned to the Office of Care Coordination effective July 1st.

b. OC Same Day Solutions Fair

After the success of the first OC Same Day Solutions Fair a second event for the South Service Planning Area is planned for mid-late summer to be hosted in the City of Lake Forest and future events in the cities of Orange and Costa Mesa.

c. 2025 Homeless Survey

Results of the 2025 Homeless Survey will be presented to the Commission at the August meeting. A second joint meeting of the Commission and Continuum of Care Board is contemplated in early September to review results and collaborate on next steps.

d. Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 6

Final applications for HHAP Round 6 funding are due in August and the Office of Care Coordination is facilitating community engagement sessions required for the Regionally Coordinated Homeless Action Plan, which are scheduled for July 7th, 8th and 10th.

3. Commissioner Spotlight – Commissioner Benjamin Hurst, The Salvation Army

Commissioner Hurst presented efforts by The Salvation Army to address homelessness, including the Anaheim Emergency Shelter, the Center of Hope, the Center for Applied Research and Innovation and the Life Transformation Center.

PRESENTATIONS

4. Weather Activated RooMs (WARM) for Families Program presented by Madelynn Hirneise, Chief Executive Officer, Families Forward

Presentation included WARM program overview, outcomes and lessons learned for motel placements for unsheltered families with elementary school-aged children during inclement weather events between January and April 2025.

5. Homeless Death Review Committee: Report on 2023 Homeless Deaths presented by Kelly Estrada, Assistant Chief Deputy Coroner, Orange County Sheriff's Department

Presentation included data on the manner and causes of Persons Experiencing Homelessness deaths between 2013 to 2023.

6. State Legislative Update presented by Peter DeMarco, Director of Legislative Affairs, County Executive Office and Nicole Wordelman, Legislative Advocate with Precision Advocacy

Presentation included updates on the State Budget after the May Revise related to homelessness funding, housing funding, and related legislative efforts to provide exemption from California Environmental Quality Act requirements for certain housing projects.

ACTION ITEMS

7. Approve Commission to End Homelessness minutes from the April 16, 2025, regular meeting On the motion of Vice Chair Cunningham, seconded by Commissioner Parks, the Commission approved the minutes as recommended.

ADJOURNED: 2:57 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: August 20, 2025, 1:00 P.M.

Signature on File

Valerie Sanchez, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board

Clerk of the Commission

Signature on File

Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento

Chair



Commission to

ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

Office of Care Coordination

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025

Membership Ad Hoc

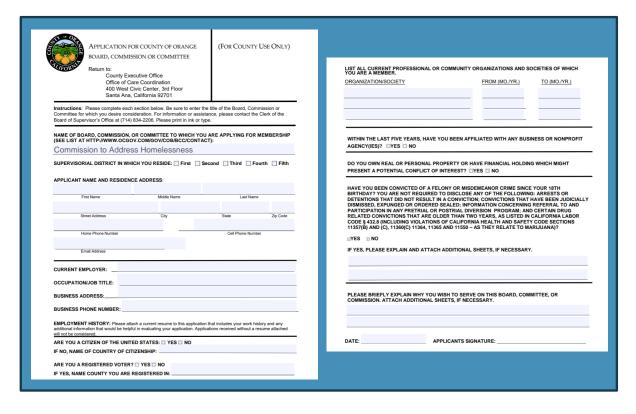
- The Ad Hoc met in May to review the existing recruitment process and discuss the expansion of candidate application questions to better align with the mission and purpose of the Commission.
- The Ad Hoc also considered the recruitment of expired and vacant seats. The membership recruitment for the Commission will be conducted in two phases to ensure continuity while preserving the Commission's momentum on key initiatives. This phased approach also allows the Commission to integrate new members in a thoughtful and manageable manner.

Ad Hoc Membership

- Vicente Sarmiento, Chair and Supervisor, Second District
- Todd Spitzer, Orange County District Attorney
- Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan Representative
- Jason Ivins, Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Representative
- Robert Morse, Continuum of Care Board Representative

Additional Application Questions

- What unique skills, experience, or perspectives do you bring that make you especially well-suited to work on solutions to homelessness in our community?
- As a regional leader, how would you use your role to bring together diverse partnerships to support countywide initiatives to address homelessness?



Expired and Vacant Seats

- Business Representative expired 12/05/2024
- Hospital Representative expired 12/05/2024
- Behavioral Health Representative expired 12/05/2024
- Central Service Planning Area Representative expired 08/08/2024
- South Service Planning Area Representative expired 08/08/2024
- Philanthropic Leader expired 08/08/2024
- Faith-Based Community Representative expired 08/08/2024
- Two Continuum of Care Board Representatives both seats expired 02/15/2025
- Lived Experience Representative established 02/25/2025
- Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Department Representative expires 06/21/2025

Phase I Membership Recruitment

- Business Representative
- Central Service Planning Area Representative
- South Service Planning Area Representative
- Faith-Based Community Representative
- Philanthropic Leader
- Lived Experience Representative

Phase 2 Membership Recruitment

- Hospital Representative
- Behavioral Health Representative
- Two Continuum of Care Board Representatives
- Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Department Representative

Membership Recruitment Timeline



Ad Hoc Review of Phase 2 Membership Applications



OC Outreach & Engagement

- At the meeting on April 8, 2025, the Orange County Board of Supervisors approved the Office of Care Coordination and Health Care Agency reorganization for the OC Outreach and Engagement Division, effective July 1, 2025.
- As part of the transition, OC Outreach and Engagement (OC O&E) will be rebranded with updated shirt colors and logo.
- The program will continue to serve individuals experiencing homelessness in Orange County, with a focus on meaningful linkages to needed housing, physical health, behavioral health, and other supportive services.
- Referrals can be made via phone to (800) 364-2221.

COUNTY OF ORANGE

SAME — DAY SOLUTIONS FAIR

OC Same-Day Solutions Fair

- Since the success of the first Same-Day Solutions Fair, the Office of Care Coordination has been working diligently to coordinate future event locations.
- The Office of Care Coordination anticipates holding the second Same-Day Solutions Fair in mid-late summer in the South Service Planning Area (SPA). More information will be shared with the Commission as it becomes available.
- To host or participate in an upcoming Same-Day Solutions Fair, please contact the Office of Care Coordination.

2025 Homeless Survey

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.

- City Net compiled their initial analysis of the survey data and has been working closely with the Office of Care Coordination to identify and refine the findings.
- 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.

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 6

Overview

- HHAP Round I first became available in 2019 as a \$650 million grant that provides local jurisdictions with funds
 to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address their immediate homelessness
 challenges.
- HHAP Round 2 is a \$300 million grant that provides support to local jurisdictions to continue to build on regional collaboration developed through previous rounds of Cal ICH funding and to develop a unified regional response to homelessness.
- HHAP Round 3, Round 4, and Round 5 are each \$1 billion grants that provide local jurisdictions, including
 federally recognized tribal governments, with flexible funding to continue efforts to end and prevent homelessness
 in their communities.
- HHAP Round 6 is a \$1 billion grant, application process currently underway

Previous HHAP Allocations

Jurisdiction	Round I	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5
County of Orange	\$7,486,575.73	\$3,422,435.00	\$9,582,816.93	\$7,131,232.99	\$8,346,726.98
Orange County CoC	\$8,081,115.98	\$3,823,692.00	\$10,267,303.85	\$7,600,841.88	\$8,699,841.23
City of Anaheim	\$8,422,162.84	\$3,981,386.00	\$10,290,351.69	\$5,092,955.47	\$5,878,393.38
City of Santa Ana	\$8,422,162.84	\$3,981,386.00	\$10,290,351.69	\$5,092,955.47	\$5,878,393.38
City of Irvine	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$5,092,955.47	\$5,878,393.38

HHAP-6 Timeline

HHAP-6 Application and Award Process					
Action	Timeframe				
Application and Final Allocations Available	February 24, 2025				
Final Applications Due	August 29, 2025				
HCD reviews and approves application or requests and reviews amendments	Rolling, Estimated August – December 2025				

HHAP-6 Funding Allocations

Jurisdiction	Allocation		
County of Orange	\$8,355,062.07		
Orange County CoC	\$8,923,349.94		
City of Anaheim	\$5,947,854.53		
City of Santa Ana	\$5,947,854.53		
City of Irvine	\$5,947,854.53		

HHAP-6 Funding Requirements

- 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 includes the County of Orange, Orange County CoC, City of Anaheim, City of Santa Ana and City of Irvine
 - Regions must have a Memorandum of Understanding committing to participation in and to comply with the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan
- Administrative costs are capped at 7 percent of each allocation
- Youth Set-Aside Requirement
 - At least 10 percent of allocation must be for services for homeless youth
- Community Engagement
 - Regions are required to hold at least three public meetings with stakeholders before the completion of the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan

Regionally Coordinated Homeless Action Plan

- I. Identifies participating jurisdictions' roles and responsibilities pertaining to outreach and site coordination, siting and use of available land, development of interim and permanent housing options, coordination and connection to service delivery.
- 2. Creates an encampment response plan for the region.
- 3. Outlines recent system performance measures, including metrics related to racial disparities.
- 4. Describes a system performance and improvement plan, including description of key actions the region intends to take to improve measures.
- 5. Explains the federal, state, and local funds being utilized to fund key actions and improve system performance measures.
- 6. Describes how key actions will ensure racial and gender equity in service delivery, housing placements, housing retention, and changes to procurement to affirm equitable access to service for groups overrepresented amount those experiencing homelessness.

HHAP-6 Eligible Use Activities

- The overarching objective of HHAP funds is to effectively address and end people's experiences of homelessness
- HHAP-6 statute organizes Eligible Use Categories into four conceptual groups:
 - Permanent Housing Solutions
 - Homelessness Prevention Activities
 - Interim Housing Solutions
 - Non-housing Solutions

HHAP-6 Community Engagement

Session #1

- July 7, 2025
- 5 pm to 7 pm
- Delhi Community Center –
 505 E. Central Ave., Santa
 Ana CA 92707
- Hosted by the City of Santa Ana

Session #2

- July 8, 2025
- 5 pm to 7 pm
- Anaheim West Tower, 2nd
 Floor, Gordon Hoyt
 Conference Room 201 S.
 Anaheim Blvd., Anaheim
 CA 92805
- Hosted by the City of Anaheim

Session #2

- July 10, 2025
- 9 am to 11 am
- County Conference Center, Room 104 and 106 – 425
 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92701
- Hosted by the County of Orange, Office of Care Coordination

DISCUSSION – ITEM #3 COMMISSIONER SPOTLIGHT

Commissioner Spotlight

Benjamin Hurst – Managing Director, The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army Anaheim Emergency Shelter



- Built in **79 Days**
- **1,780** guests served (unduplicated)
- 534,929 total nights of lodging
- 424,345 meals served
- **15,003** individual Case Management sessions
- Over 400 placed in permanent housing
- The Salvation Army has a combined 720 beds serving the homeless in our Orange County community, including shelters in Placentia and Santa Ana



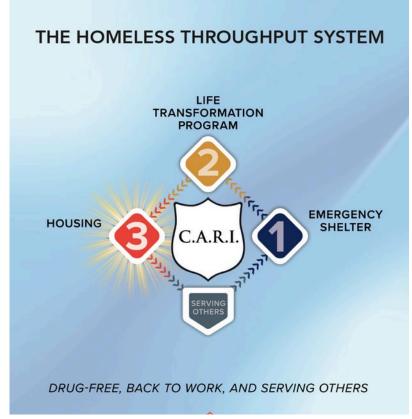


CENTER OF HOPE

Transforming Lives









The Center of Hope





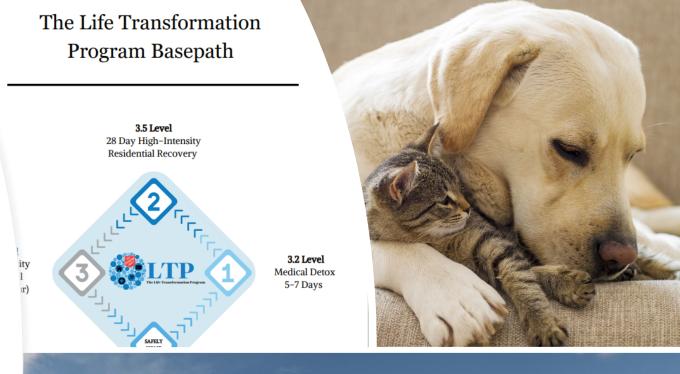
The Center for Applied Research and Innovation (CARI)



- "First in the world" providing field research, innovative program design and rapid field deployment
- Proven locally, shared nationally to 6,914 Salvation
 Army service centers across the United States
- A 2-phase, **\$65 million** capital campaign that is **93% complete**

The Life Transformation Center

- California "Prop 1" BHCIP \$90 million application
- 168 new medical detox and residential SUD recovery beds for the homeless
- Integration of Animalassisted Therapy





PRESENTATION – ITEM #4 WEATHER ACTIVATED ROOMS FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM

Weather Activated RooMs (WARM) for Families Program

An update of the WARM for Families Program presented by:

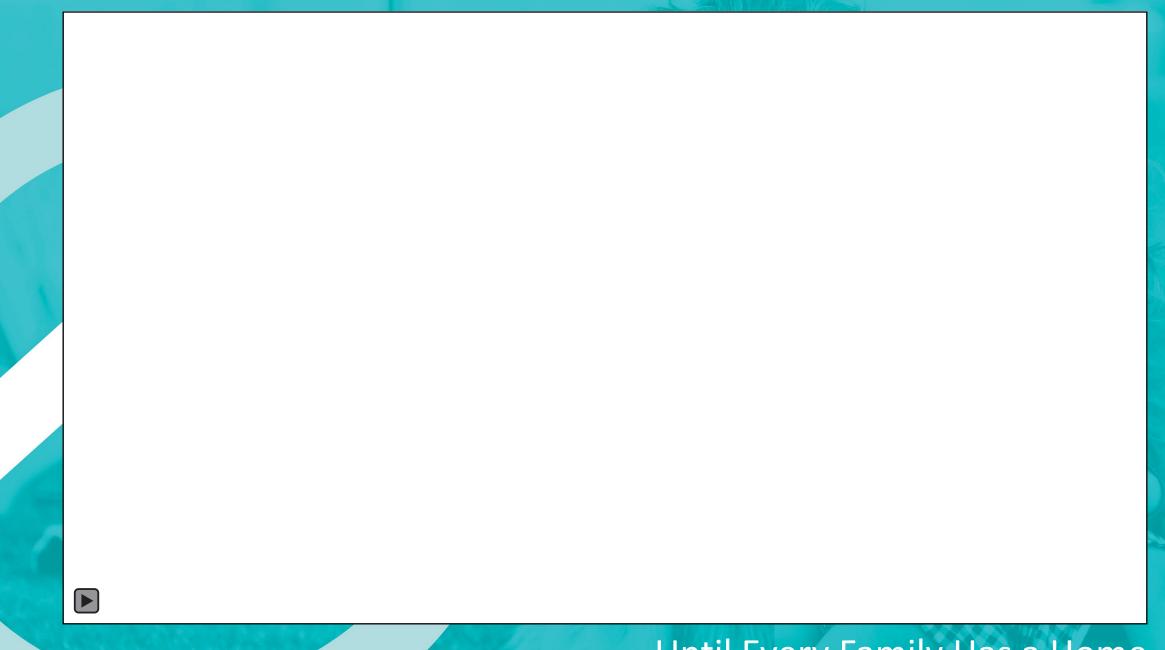
Madelynn Hirneise – Chief Executive Officer, Families Forward



FAMILIES FORWARD

WARM Program for Families: Inclement Weather Emergency Response Program

Madelynn Hirneise, CEO





Presentation Agenda

- Program Overview

 Service model and operational framework
- Timeline & Activations

 Deployment schedule and response events
- Program Impact

 Housing outcomes and family success metrics
- 4 Lessons & Recommendations

 Challenges identified and strategic improvements



Program Overview

Target Population

Families experiencing unsheltered homelessness homelessness with children in elementary schools.

Serves Second District, Orange County residents residents exclusively.

Service Delivery

Scattered-site motel placements with comprehensive support services. Includes Includes meals, case management, and transportation assistance.

Operational Framework

Low-barrier access through school referrals.

Active from January 21 through April 30, 2025.

Activation Timeline

February Launch First activation on February 5th with two families referred **Peak Activity** March saw highest demand with 26 families referred across two activations Final Response April activation served 2 families before seasonal conclusion

Activation Summary

#	Activation Dates	Nights	Referred	Made Contact	Rooms Booked	Total Nights
1	02/05/2025 - 02/07/2025	2	2	1	1	2
2	02/11/2025 - 02/14/2025	3	9	3	3	9
3	03/05/2025 - 03/09/2025	2	12	3	1	2
4	03/11/2025 - 03/15/2025	4	14	5	2	8
5	04/02/2025 - 04/04/2025	2	21	8	3	6
		13	58	20	10	27

Five successful activations provided:

- 27 total nights of shelter.
- Established partnerships with 21 motels across the Second District.

Referral Process



School Identification

Elementary schools in the Second District identify eligible families families experiencing unsheltered homelessness



Engagement Efforts

Families contacted via multiple channels including phone and email email outreach



Program Placement

Successful connections result in motel accommodations and support services



Program Impact



100%

Resource Connection

All Families Linked to Ongoing Support

17%

Permanent Housing

Secured housing with rental assistance

33%

Diversion Success

Prevented return to homelessness

Lessons Learned



Communication Barriers

Outdated contact information and limited limited family response rates affected outreach effectiveness



Short Stay Duration
Duration

Brief two-day bookings proved unappealing to families requiring longerlonger-term stability



Planning Constraints

Families needed additional time to coordinate and prepare for temporary stays



PRESENTATION – ITEM #5 HOMELESS DEATH REVIEW COMMITTEE

Homeless Death Review Committee

A review of the Report on 2023 Homeless Deaths presented by:

Kelly Estrada – Assistant Chief Deputy Coroner, Orange County Sheriff's Department

Homeless Death Review Committee:

Report on 2023 Homeless Deaths

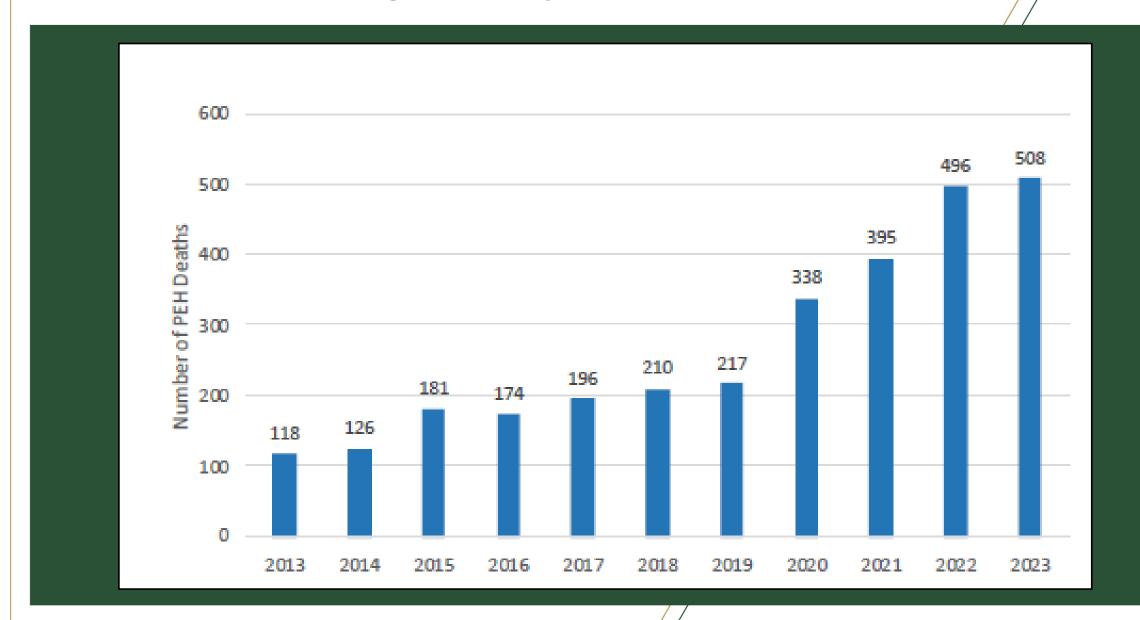


Background on Homeless Death Review

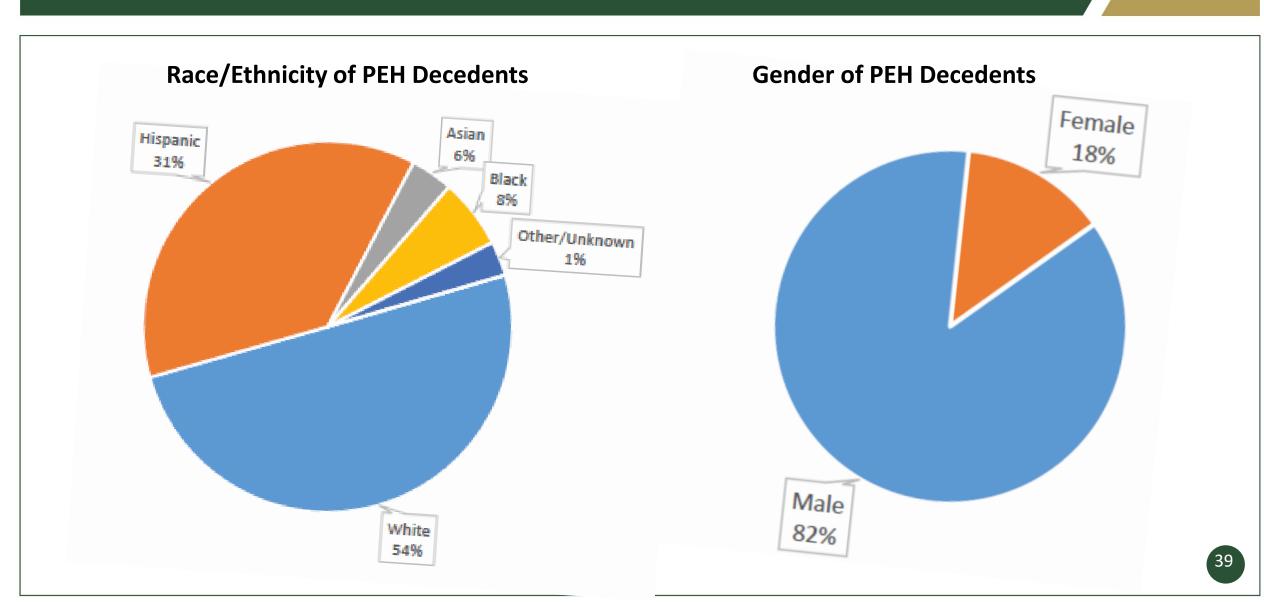


- Created by Sheriff Barnes in January 2022 to analyze Orange County's homeless deaths.
- Committee includes representatives from county agencies, city police departments, medical personnel, and non-profits who serve the homeless population.
- First report was on 2021 homeless deaths.

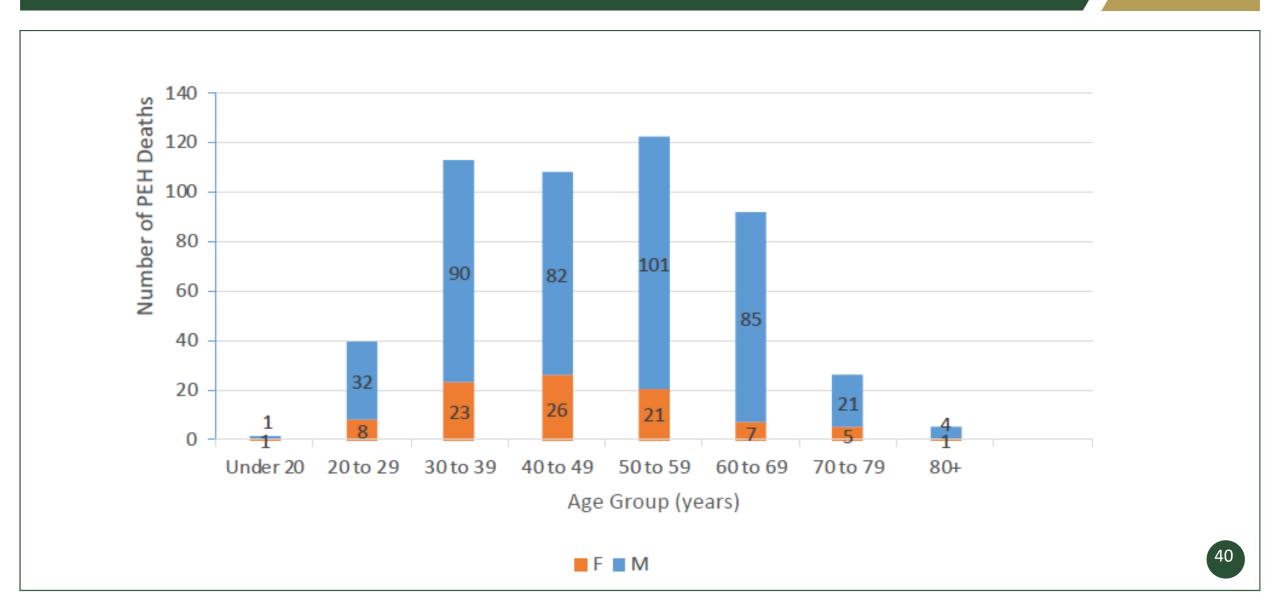
PEH Deaths in Orange County 2013-2023



Demographics of PEH Deaths



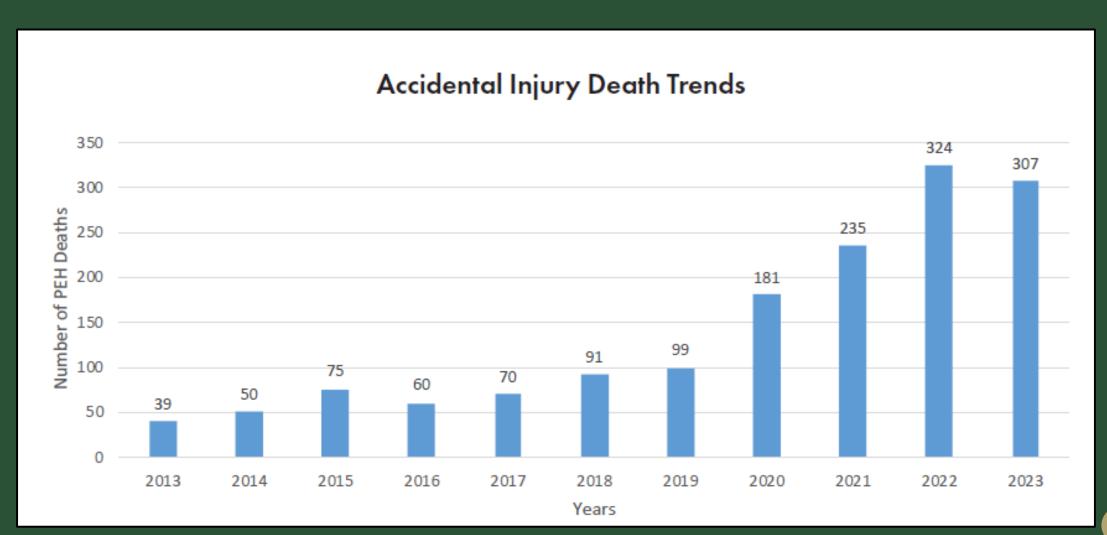
Age of PEH Deaths (By Gender)



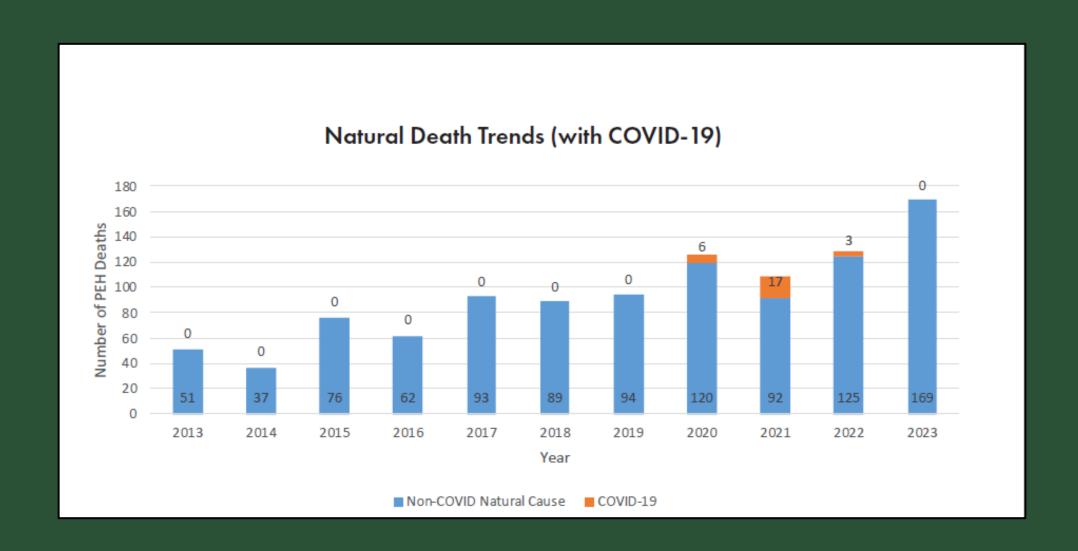
PEH Manner of Death

Table 1: Manner of Death to PEH (2019 to 2023)										
Homeless Deaths	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
Manner of Death	Num- ber	Per- cent								
Accident	99	46%	181	54%	235	59%	324	65%	307	60%
Homicide	6	3%	7	2%	11	3%	8	2%	7	2%
Natural	94	43%	126	37%	109	28%	128	26%	169	33%
COVID-19			6	2%	17	4%	5	1%	0	0%
Suicide	14	7%	15	4%	22	6%	19	4%	22	4%
Undetermined/	4	1%	3	1%	1	0%	12	2%	3	1%
Pending*										
Total	217	100%	338	100%	395	100%	496	100%	508	100%

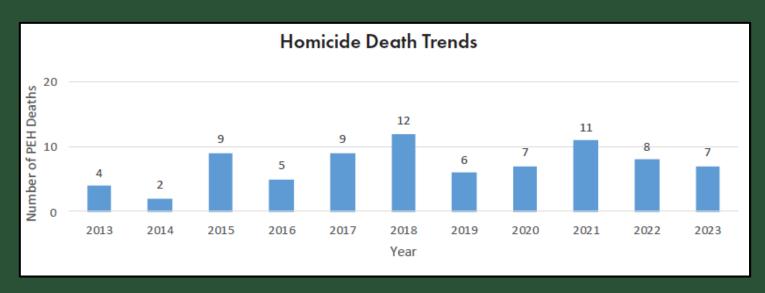
PEH Death Trends-Accidental

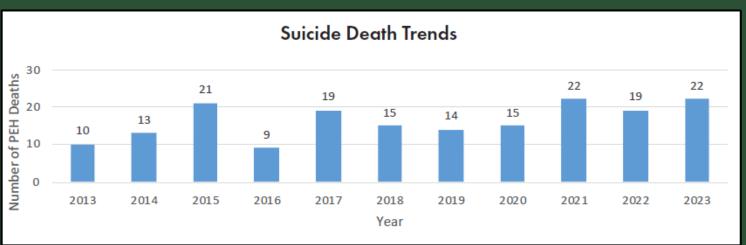


PEH Death Trends-Natural



PEH Death Trends-Homicide and Suicide

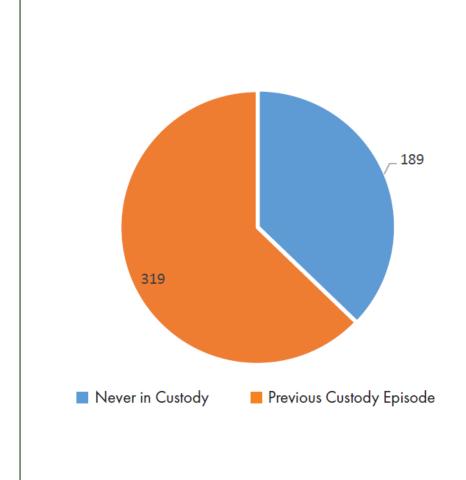




Details on Accidental Cause of Death for PEH

Table 2: Accidental (Unintentional Injury) Cause Group Detail	Homeless	%Homeless Deaths
Poisoning/Overdose with Fentanyl	220	43.3%
Poisoning/Overdose (Non-Fentanyl)	41	8.1%
Pedestrian Traffic	32	6.3%
Motor Vehicle Traffic	2	.4%
Falls	7	1.4%
Pedal Cyclist Traffic	2	.4%
Drowning	3	.5%
Other/Unknown/Ill-Defined	0	0%
Total	307	65.3%

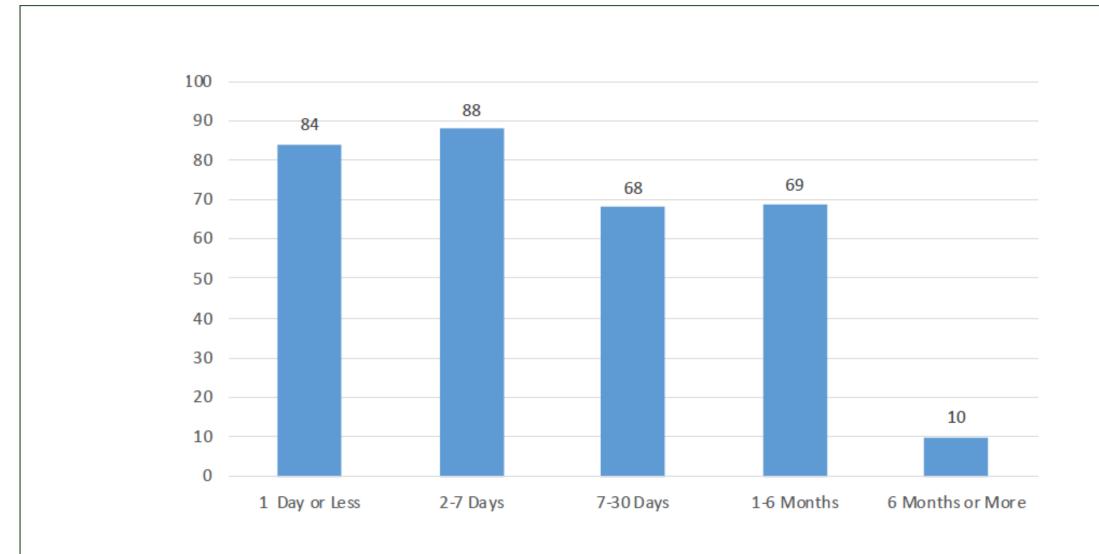
PEH History in Custody



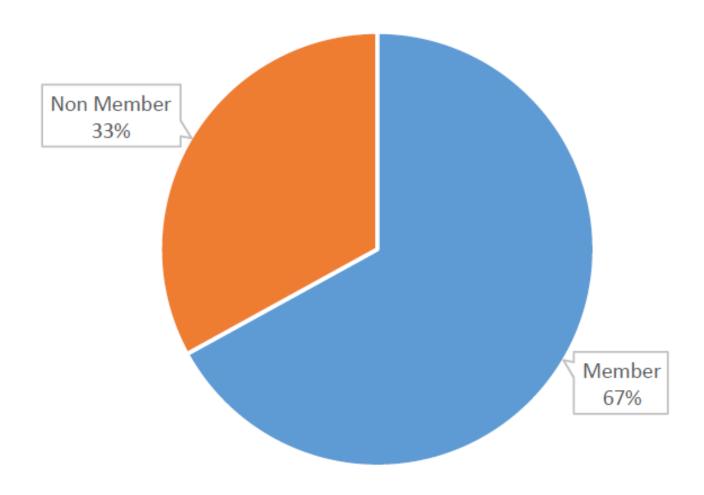
Length of Most Recent Time in Custody



Length of Most Recent Time in Custody



PEH CalOptima Membership



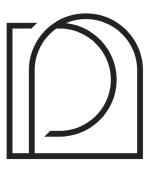
Orange County Sheriff's Department

Questions and Feedback

Legislative Update

An update on state legislation presented by:

- Peter DeMarco Director of Legislative Affairs, County Executive Office
- Nicole Wordelman Legislative Advocate, Precision Advocacy



PRECISION ADVOCACY

SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE UPDATE JUNE 18, 2025

PRESENTED BY: NICOLE WORDELMAN, LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE

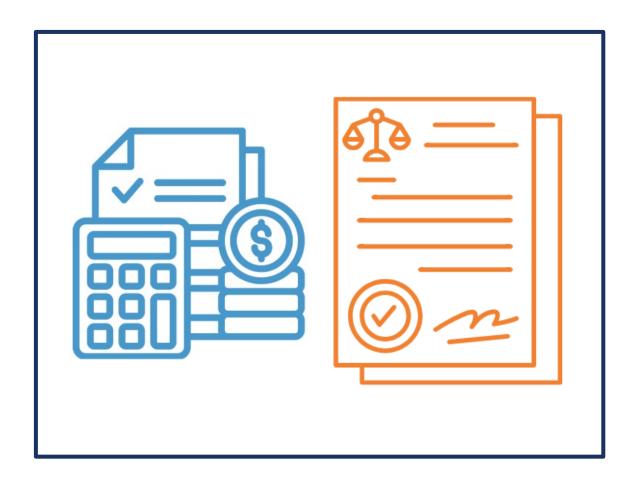


Agenda

Budget

- Status
- Homelessness and Housing Funding
- Related Legislation

Legislation



State Budget Status

- May Revision May 14, 2025
- Legislature's Budget Passed June 13, 2025
- Governor
- Budget Action to Continue...

Homelessness Funding

- Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program \$500 million
- CalWORKs Housing Support \$95 million
- Home Safe \$83.8 million
- Bringing Families Home \$81 million
- Housing Disability Advocacy Program \$69.6 million





Housing Funding

- Low Income Housing Tax Credit \$500 million
- Multi-Family Housing Program \$120 million
- Dream for All program \$300 million

Budget-Related Legislation

- AB 609 (Wicks) California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption for housing projects:
 - On sites up to 20 acres
 - On or adjoining current or former urban uses
 - Within an incorporated city or town or an unincorporated community with at least 5,000 residents or 2,000 housing units
- SB 607 (Wiener) CEQA





Legislation

- Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026
 - **AB 736 (Wicks)**
 - SB 417 (Cabaldon)

Questions?



ACTION – ITEM #7 MEETING MINUTES

Commission to Address Homelessness Meeting Minutes

Approve Commission to Address Homelessness minutes from the April 16, 2025, regular meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Commission to Address Homelessness Meeting

■ The next regular meeting is August 20, 2025.

August								
Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa		
					1	2		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
31								