SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
COMMISSION TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

Wednesday, October 15, 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

Gina Cunningham, Vice Chair
Affordable Housing Development Representative

Susan Parks
Business Representative

Adam Hawley
Chief of Police Representative

Todd Spitzer
Orange County District Attorney

Cecilia Bustamante-Pixa
Hospital Representative

Richard Afable
Behavioral Health Representative

James Vanderpool
North Service Planning Area Representative

Benjamin Vazquez
Central Service Planning Area Representative

Debra Rose
South Service Planning Area Representative

Benjamin Hurst
Philanthropic Leader Representative

Jason Ivins
Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Representative

Ivan Pitts
Faith-Based Community Representative

Milo Peinemann
At-Large Representative

Kelly Bruno-Nelson
Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan Representative

Maricela Rios-Faust
Continuum of Care Board Representative

Robert Morse
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: Afable, Bruno-Nelson, Bustamante-Pixa, Cunningham, Hawley, Hurst, Ivins, Morse, Peinemann, Pitts, Spitzer, Rios-Faust, Rose, Sarmiento and Vazquez

ABSENT: Commissioners: Nguyen, Parks and Vanderpool

PRESENT:
COMMISSION DIRECTOR — Doug Becht, Director of Care Coordination
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION — Valerie Sanchez, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board

Call to Order
CHAIR SARMIENTO CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 1:04 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance
COMMISSIONER SPITZER LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Roll Call
CLERK CALLED THE ROLL AND CONFIRMED QUORUM PRESENT

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

COMMISSION MEMBERS COMMENTS

Chair Sarmiento – Welcomed new Commissioners, Benjamin Vazquez and Ivan Pitts; Commissioners were also invited to attend the 2nd District's Small Scale Housing Summit on November 5, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Commissioner Hurst – Wanted to take a moment to thank Commissioners whose terms ended and recognize their service on the Commission and the impact of the work to address homelessness.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Commission to Address Homelessness Update

    a. Membership Update
    Commission Director Doug Becht reported that the Board of Supervisors approved the appointment recommendations to the Commission to Address Homelessness and thanked Commissioners Monique Davis and Lisa Kim for their time and contribution to the Commission.

    b. Joint-Special Meeting with the Orange County Continuum of Care Board
    A joint-special meeting with the Continuum of Care Board was held on September 10, 2025, to present findings of the 2025 survey titled, *Falling Through the Safety Net: Understanding Individuals' Journey and Contributing Factors to Homelessness*; feedback received will be included in the final report.

2. Office of Care Coordination Update

    a. OC Same Day Solutions Fair
    Commission Director Doug Becht announced the success of the third OC Same-Day Solutions Fair hosted in the City of Orange on September 25, 2025; including 236 attendees and 664 total services provided; the next OC Same-Day Solutions Fair is scheduled for November 20, 2025, in the City of Placentia in partnership with HIS-OC; and thanked the Commissioners for their support and involvement.

    b. State Action for Facilitation on Encampments (SAFE) Task Force
    Commission Director Doug Becht discussed Governor Newsom's August 29, 2025, announcement of SAFE Task Force, which prioritizes and deploys California's comprehensive network of services to remove encampments on state rights-of-way in California's ten largest cities, including the City of Anaheim; the SAFE Task Force, which includes CalTrans, CalOES, and CHP, worked together with the Office of Care Coordination

and City of Anaheim to clear encampments and connect individuals with resources including access to shelter beds.

On the motion of Commissioner Spitzer, seconded by Vice Chair Cunningham, the Commission directed the Chair and the Office of Care Coordination to request Board of Supervisors' approval for the Commission to send a letter to the SAFE Task Force to communicate concerns and make suggestions for collaboration to achieve common goals.

c. 2026 Point in Time Count

The 2026 Point in Time Count will take place over three days starting on January 27, 2026 (Central Service Planning Area), January 28, 2026 (North Service Planning Area) and January 29, 2026 (South Service Planning Area).

d. Request for Proposals

The Office of Care Coordination released two Requests for Proposal (RFPs), first for Services Coordination, Permanent Housing Delivery and Prevention and Shelter Diversion Services and second for County Emergency Shelter Operations & Services.

3. Commissioner Spotlight – Commissioner Robert Morse, Continuum of Care Board Representative

Commissioner "Santa Bob" Morse presented a video detailing his story including what led him to experience homelessness, his journey out of homelessness and his determination not to leave others experiencing homelessness behind; his determination has led to his work and involvement in several forums to advocate for those experiencing homelessness.

PRESENTATIONS

4. Homelessness Legislative Impacts and Advocacy Strategy by An Tran, Director, Orange County Social Services Agency; Julia Bidwell, Director, Orange County Housing and Community Development; and Douglas Becht, Director of the Office of Care Coordination.

Director of the Orange County Social Services Agency, An Tran, presented on anticipated impacts of HR-1 to Medi-Cal/Medicaid and Cal Fresh/SNAP programs including elimination of automatic renewals, a new requirement for recertification every six months and updated requirements to participate in work activities as a condition of eligibility for those ages 19 – 64; HR-1 did not include funding for additional resources to address the resulting increased workload for program staff.

Director of Orange County Housing and Community Development, Julia Bidwell, discussed impacts of the Emergency Housing Vouchers Program ending earlier than anticipated and plans to transition a portion of the impacted households to Housing Choice Vouchers this year, and the remaining 389 households will gradually transition to the Housing Choice Voucher through July 2028.

Commission Director Doug Becht provided an update on legislative impacts to the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and changes to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidelines to limit funding for permanent housing to 30% of CoC funding, instead of the current 87%.

On the motion of Commissioner Peinemann, seconded by Commissioner Rios Faust, the Commission recommended that:

Due to expected changes, many individuals who were formerly homeless and are currently housed through the Homeless Service System, including the CoC Program and federal rental assistance, are at risk of re-entering homelessness. As such, the Commission, the CoC Board, Cities and County departments collective priority should be to prevent their homelessness and must collaborate to identify and secure alternative funding, programs, and services to support their long-term permanent housing stability.

As such, the Commission recommends that the Office of Care Coordination submit a memo to the Board of Supervisors stating the Commission's concerns related to the CoC Program and federal rental assistance that is at risk and recommending that the Board direct County Departments to prioritize the prevention of these households entering homelessness by developing recommendations for alternative funding, programs, and services to support long term housing stability to bring back to the Board.

ACTION ITEMS

5. Recommendation to operate Weather Activated Rooms (WARM) Program for Families.

   On the motion of Chair Sarmiento, seconded by Commissioner Morse, the Commission approved as recommended.

6. Membership Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation
   a. Approve the recommendation for the following candidates to serve on the Commission to Address Homelessness as detailed below to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.
      i. Anthony Trejo, Program Manager at HIS-OC, as the Current or Past Lived Experience of Homelessness Representative
      ii. Veronica Kelley, Director of the Orange County Health Care Agency, as the Behavioral Health Representative with expertise in services for people experiencing homelessness with mental health and substance use disorders
      iii. Nathaniel Shinagawa, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of UCI Health, as the Hospital Representative with expertise in the local hospital emergency room treatment and discharge system
      iv. Maricela Rios-Faust, Chief Executive Officer of Human Options, as the Continuum of Care Board Representative
      v. Robert Morse, Homeless Advocate, as the Continuum of Care Board Representative

vi. Virgil Asuncion, Commander of Southwest Operations Division, as the Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Department Representative in a leadership and/or command level role with knowledge of the Orange County's System of Care

vii. Joshua Bobko, Medical Director of Emergency Medical Services at the Orange County Fire Authority, as the At-Large Representative

On the motion of Commissioner Affable, seconded by Commissioner Morse, the Commission approved as recommended.

7. Approve Commission to Address Homelessness minutes from the August 20, 2025, regular meeting.

   On the motion of Commissioner Morse, seconded by Commissioner Rios-Faust, the Commission approved the minutes of the August 20, 2025, regular meeting.

8. Approve Orange County Continuum of Care Board and the Commission to Address Homelessness minutes from the September 10, 2025, joint special meeting.

   On the motion of Commissioner Morse, seconded by Commissioner Rios-Faust, the Commission approved the minutes of the September 10, 2025, regular meeting

9. Approve revised Commission to Address Homelessness 2025 Meeting Schedule Calendar to amend the December meeting date from December 10, 2025, to December 11, 2025.

   On the motion of Commissioner Morse, seconded by Commissioner Cunningham, the Commission approved as recommended.

ADJOURNED: 3:24 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: December 11, 2025, 1:00 P.M.

Valerie Sanchez, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board
Clerk of the Commission

Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento
Chair

Commission to

ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

Office of Care Coordination

REGULAR MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025

DISCUSSION – ITEM #1
COMMISSION TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS UPDATE

Membership Update

At the meeting on September 23, 2025, the Board of Supervisors approved the recommended appointments to the Commission to Address Homelessness.

- Debra Rose, South Service Planning Area Representative
- Susan Parks, Business Representative
- Benjamin Hurst, Philanthropic Leader Representative
- Ivan Pitts, Faith-Based Community Representative
- Benjamin Vazquez, Central Service Planning Area Representative



DISCUSSION – ITEM #1
COMMISSION TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS UPDATE

Joint – Special Meeting with the Orange County Continuum of Care Board

The Joint-Special Meeting of the Orange County Continuum of Care Board and the Commission to Address Homelessness was held on September 10, 2025. This meeting focused on the Office of Care Coordination's 2025 Survey titled **Falling through the Safety Net:** *Understanding Individuals' Journeys and Contributing Factors to Homelessness.*

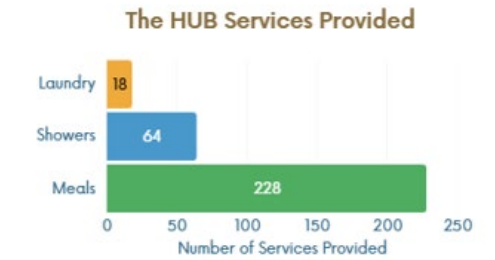
The feedback and insights shared during the meeting were invaluable in helping to deepen the understanding of areas of focus highlighted by the survey results.

The Office of Care Coordination is currently developing an expanded narrative report that will provide additional context and analysis.



DISCUSSION – ITEM #2
OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION UPDATE









OC Same-Day Solutions Fair

- The Office of Care Coordination hosted its third OC Same-Day Solutions Fair at The HUB Resource Center on September 25, 2025.
  - 236 Unduplicated Households Participated
  - 664 Total Services Provided
  - 310 Services Provided by The HUB Resource Center
- The next OC Same-Day Solutions Fair is scheduled for November 20, 2025, in Placentia in partnership with HIS-OC.
- To host or participate in an upcoming OC Same-Day Solutions Fair, please contact the Office of Care Coordination.

DISCUSSION – ITEM #2
OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION UPDATE

State Action for Facilitation on Encampments (SAFE) Task Force

On August 29, 2025, Governor Newsom announced the SAFE Task Force to aggressively prioritize and deploy California's comprehensive network of services to quickly remove encampments on state rights-of-way and help connect people with supportive services and shelter.

The SAFE Task Force aims to dismantle homeless encampments in California's ten largest cities, including the City of Anaheim, where an encampment was identified along the 91 freeway from Lemon St. to Raymond Ave. and between both sides of the railroad tracks under the freeway.



DISCUSSION – ITEM #2
OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION UPDATE

State Action for Facilitation on Encampments (SAFE) Task Force

The SAFE Task Force worked with the Office of Care Coordination and the City of Anaheim to integrate local resources and expertise from multiple state agencies and local government to clear the area with a client centered approach by offering engagement services and attempting to link individuals living in the encampment to immediate services.

- CalTrans: Identified affected areas and perform clean up, debris removal, and installation of mitigation measures
- CalOES: Oversaw logistics and resource deployment to support the effort
- CHP: Provided public safety support during clearance and monitored the area afterwards
- County of Orange: Coordinated street outreach efforts and served as first point of engagement
- City of Anaheim: Coordinated the dispatch of Mariposa as a service agency and arranged set aside beds at city-operated shelter

DISCUSSION – ITEM #2
OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION UPDATE

State Action for Facilitation on Encampments (SAFE) Task Force

The Office of Care Coordination assigned OC Outreach & Engagement (O&E) to canvas and proactively attempt to engage any individuals within the location starting on September 27, 2025.

Ten (10) encampment sites were identified by CalTrans, and two (2) individuals were engaged and offered shelter, hygiene kits, water, and snacks. Referrals to services were not accepted at the time of engagement, and the individuals engaged were not previously known to OC O&E.

The Office of Care Coordination will continue working with all participating SAFE Task Force entities to support with engagement efforts and access to shelter beds for individuals experiencing homelessness in identified areas of concern.

DISCUSSION – ITEM #2
OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION UPDATE

2026 Point in Time (PIT) Count

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires all Continuum of Care (CoC) jurisdictions nationwide to complete a biennial unsheltered count and an annual sheltered count of all individuals experiencing homelessness in the community at a single "point in time".

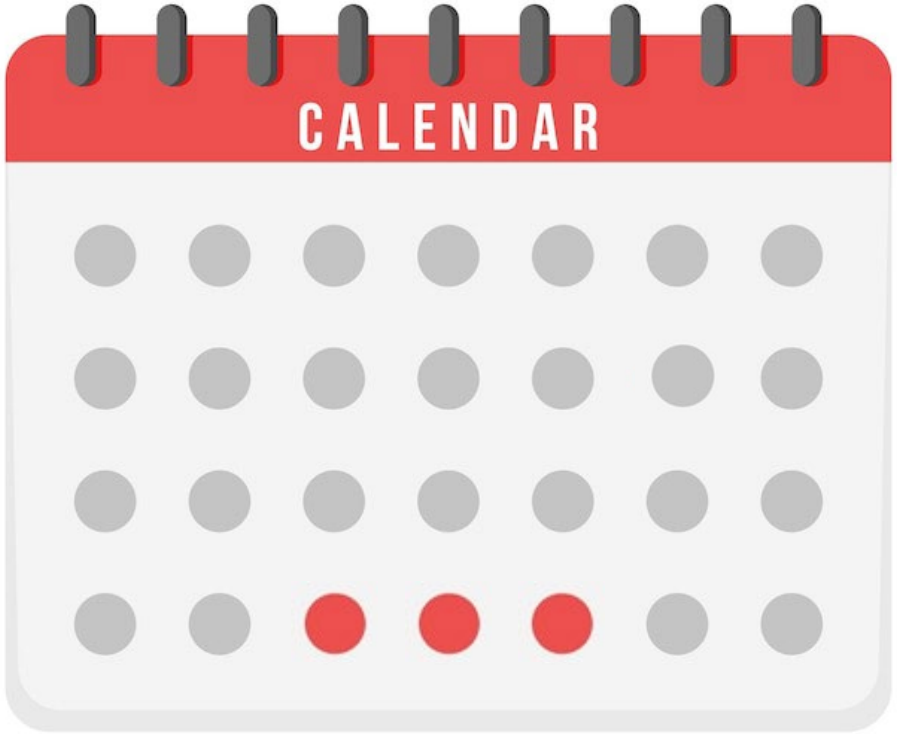
The Orange County PIT Count is a collaborative effort between:

- County of Orange
- City Net – lead agency for unsheltered count
- OC United Way – HMIS lead agency for sheltered count
- Hub for Urban Initiatives – HUD methodology and survey tool design
- Orange County CoC
- All 34 Orange County cities
- Local, State, and Federal elected officials

EVERYONE COUNTS
2026 Point In Time

DISCUSSION – ITEM #2
OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION UPDATE

2026 Point in Time (PIT) Count



Save the Date for the Orange County 2026 PIT

- Tuesday, January 27, 2026, in the Central Service Planning Area
- Wednesday, January 28, 2026, in the North Service Planning Area
- Thursday, January 29, 2026, in the South Service Planning Area

Additional information on deployment centers, volunteer opportunities and trainings is forthcoming and will be available at **https://www.everyonecountsoc.org/.**

DISCUSSION – ITEM #2
OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION UPDATE

Request for Proposals

The Office of Care Coordination recently released two Requests for Proposals (RFPs).

Services Coordination, Permanent Housing Delivery, and Prevention & Shelter Diversion Services

Released August 28, 2025

Closed October 2, 2025

This RFP solicited proposals for three related programs:

- Program A – Services Coordination
- Program B – Permanent Housing Delivery
- Program C – Prevention & Shelter Diversion

County Emergency Shelter Operations & Services

Released September 8, 2025

Closed October 6, 2025

The RFP solicited proposals for two related programs:

- Bridges at Kraemer Place
- Yale Navigation Center

DISCUSSION – ITEM #3
COMMISSIONER SPOTLIGHT

Commissioner Spotlight

- Robert Morse – Homeless Advocate, Orange County



PRESENTATION – ITEM #4
HOMELESS LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS AND ADVOCACY STRATEGY

Homeless Legislative Impacts and Advocacy Strategy

An update on federal legislation impacts presented by:

- An Tran – Director, Orange County Social Services Agency
- Julia Bidwell – Director, Orange County Housing and Community Development
- Douglas Becht – Director, Office of Care Coordination

Orange County Social Services Agency Changes to Medi-Cal and CalFresh

COUNTY OF ORANGE CALIFORNIA
SocialServicesAgency
Our Community, Our Commitment

Disclaimer: The details contained in this presentation are subject to change as official guidance is issued.

Policy Change Timeline

2026

Medi-Cal - January 1

Reinstated asset limits for older adults and people with disabilities

Full-scope enrollment freeze for undocumented adults

CalFresh - February 1

Re-established work requirements for adults aged 16-59

Several categories of immigrants excluded from CalFresh eligibility

Standard Utility Allowance (SUA) change

Medi-Cal - July 1

Dental coverage eliminated for undocumented adults 19+

2027

Medi-Cal - January 1

Adults ages 19-64 must meet work requirements or prove they are exempt to keep their coverage

Adults ages 19-64 will have their eligibility checked every 6 months

Retroactive coverage period shortened

Medi-Cal - July 1

Premium requirements for undocumented adult recipients aged 19-59

Medi-Cal - October 1

Certain individuals are no longer recognized as Qualified Non-Citizens (refugees, Asylees, etc.)

2028

Medi-Cal - October 1

Co-payments for certain health care services

Medi-Cal Renewal for Unhoused Individuals

Medi-Cal Renewal waivers for individuals with zero income expired 6/30/25

- The waivers allowed automatic renewal for individuals experiencing homelessness
- This significant change is unrelated to HR-1

Medi-Cal Work Related Requirements – Effective January 1, 2027

Affected Group

Certain applicants and recipients aged 19-64 without an exemption

Work Requirements

To maintain coverage, individuals must meet one of the following monthly:

- Earn at least $580
- Complete 80 hours of employment, job training or community service
- Be enrolled at least half-time in school or education program

Exemptions

- A parent of a child younger than 13 years old
- Native Americans & former foster youth younger than 26
- Meeting CalFresh work requirements and participating in drug/alcohol treatment programs
- People with disabilities or chronic illness
- Medicare recipients
- Recently released inmates (within 90 days)
- Pregnant individuals and up to 1 year postpartum

Medi-Cal Renewal Changes

Effective January 1, 2027

Affected Group

- Applicants and recipients aged 19-64
- Do not have children younger than age 19

Renewal Frequency

- Renewal frequency increases from once to twice per year
- Missed deadlines or incomplete documents may result in loss of coverage

CalFresh Work Requirement Changes – Effective February 1, 2026

Affected Group

Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) aged 16-59

Key Changes

- Must verify 20+ hours/week of work, training or volunteering
- Verification now required every 6 months (previously annually)

Exemptions Removed

- Veterans, former foster youth (aged 18-25) and unhoused individuals must now meet work requirements
- People with disabilities remain exempt

Questions & Answers



COUNTY OF ORANGE CALIFORNIA

OC Social Services Agency

Our Community, Our Commitment

For more information, please visit: ssa.ocgov.com

SSA Outreach Inbox: ssaoutreach@ssa.ocgov.com

Emergency Housing Voucher Update

Commission to Address Homelessness

Julia Bidwell, Director, OC H&CD
October 15, 2025

Protecting Vulnerable Households While Advancing Waitlist Access

Background

EHV Program Ending

- Federal guidance is sunsetting the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program

OCHA's Response

- A strategic plan to preserve housing for vulnerable families
- Upholds commitments to the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) waitlist

The Challenge

- 489 EHV household at risk of losing housing
  - Includes survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, people with disabilities, and formerly homeless individuals.
- Nearly 14,000 household on the HCV waitlist
  - 2,000 waiting since 2012
- Limited funding restricts full transition of EHV households and waitlist selections

Key Actions

- Update Administrative Plan to allow EHV households on HCV waitlist
  - ➢ Out for Public Review at:
    www.ochousing.org
    Documents & Forms | Orange County Housing Authority
    (https://ochousing.org/sites/ocha/files/2025-10/Draft%202025%20Orange%20County%20Housing%20Authority%20Administrative%20Plan.pdf)
  - ➢ To the Board of Supervisors for approval on November 18, 2025
- Transfer 100 EHV households to HCV in 2025
- Gradual transition of remaining EHV households through July 2028

Strategic Alignment

Systemwide Benefits

- Prevents returns to homelessness
- Maintains support for special purpose vouchers
- Continues project-based voucher allocations
- Resumes waitlist selections in 2026 (based on current projections)

Conclusion

Equity-Focused, Fiscally Responsible Plan

- Protects 489 vulnerable households
- Balances urgent needs with long-term commitments
- Supports federal standards and local housing goals

Questions and Answers



Contact for more information:

Julia.Bidwell@occr.ocgov.com

714-480-2991

www.ochousing.org

CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM FEDERAL LEGISLATION IMPACTS

DOUGLAS BECHT

DIRECTOR OF CARE COORDINATION

PRESENTATION – ITEM #4
HOMELESSNESS LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS AND ADVOCACY STRATEGY

Continuum of Care (CoC) Program

- The CoC Program is designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness by providing funding for efforts by nonprofit providers and State and local governments. The CoC Program also promotes access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families.
- The CoC Program was established by the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act), is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and has an annual planning and application process for communities to follow to secure funding to address combat homelessness.
- HUD, through the CoC Program, provides funding to organizations following a local and national competition process. The Office of Care Coordination serves as the CoC's designated Collaborative Applicant and helps facilitates the application process, to renew existing grants and apply for additional funding.

PRESENTATION – ITEM #4
HOMELESSNESS LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS AND ADVOCACY STRATEGY

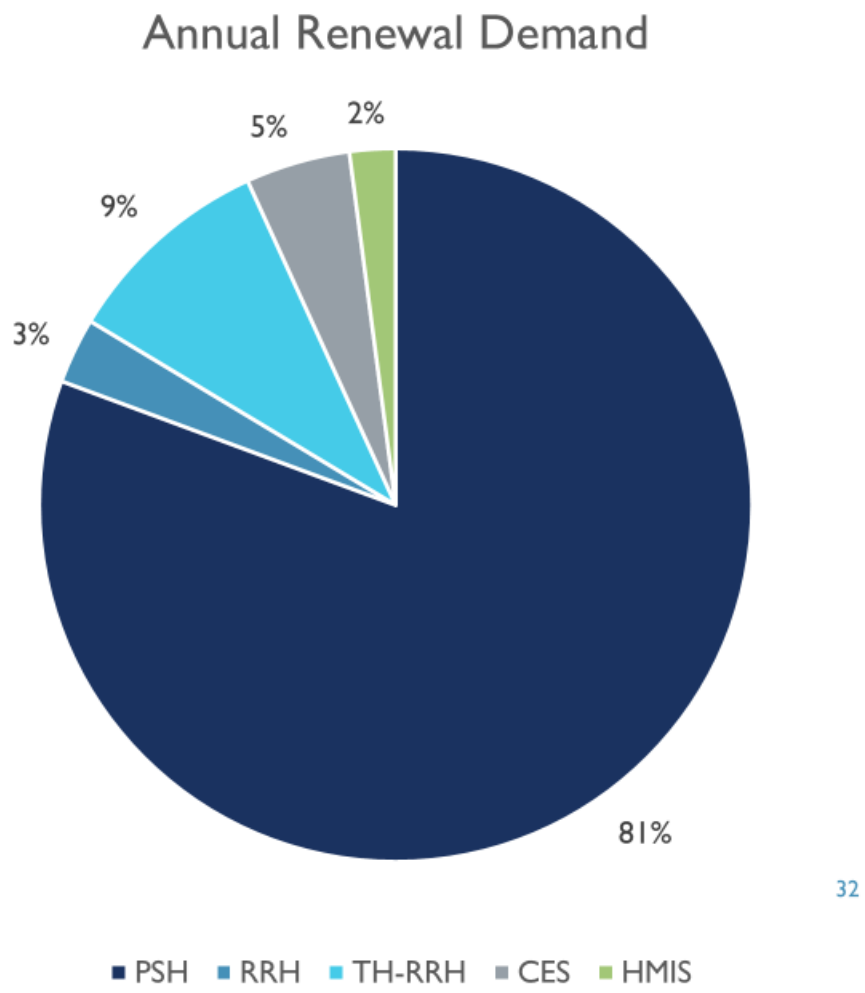
Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 CoC Program Grant Agreements

- The FY2024 CoC Program grant agreements included provisions that were not reflected in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) released by HUD, including the following:
  - Recipient will not use funds to promote "gender ideology"
  - Recipient does not operate any programs that violate any applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws
  - "Waste, Fraud, Abuse, and Whistleblower Protections"
  - Recipient will not use funds to "fund or promote elective abortions"
  - No state of unit of local government that receives funding may use it for "subsidization or promotion of illegal immigration" or "policies that see to shield illegal aliens from deportation"
  - HUD will not enforce provisions that require the project to use a Housing First model

PRESENTATION – ITEM #4
HOMELESSNESS LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS AND ADVOCACY STRATEGY

CoC Program – FY 2025 Grant Inventory

- Orange County CoC's Estimated Annual Renewal Demand (ARD): **$33,248,578**
  - Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH): **$26,814,524**
  - Rapid Re-housing (RRH): **$989,050**
  - Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Re-Housing (Joint TH-RRH): **$3,176,779**
  - Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry (CES): **$1,576,249**
  - Homeless Management Information System (HMIS): **$691,976**
- CoC Planning Grant: **$1,500,000**



Slide Updated 10/22/2025

PRESENTATION – ITEM #4
HOMELESSNESS LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS AND ADVOCACY STRATEGY

PSH

- Orange County CoC receives **$26,814,524 for PSH**
- Primarily serves individual households experiencing chronic homelessness
- **1,124** households currently permanently housed, who are at risk of homelessness

RRH

- Orange County CoC receives **$989,050 for RRH**
- Primarily serves families with minor children and survivors of domestic violence
- **35** households served annually

Joint TH-RRH

- Orange County CoC receives **$3,176,779 in Joint TH-RRH**
- Primarily serves survivors of domestic violence, including single women and women with minor children
- **101** households served annually

CES

- Orange County CoC receives **$1,576,249 for CES**
- Prioritizes people experiencing homelessness who are working towards permanent housing, maximizing available resources

HMIS

- Orange County CoC receives **$691,976 for HMIS**
- Critical in for data collection and tracking of people served, services provided, and outcomes

PRESENTATION – ITEM #4
HOMELESSNESS LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS AND ADVOCACY STRATEGY

FY 2025 CoC Program NOFO Expected Changes

On July 3, 2025, HUD sent communication via mailing list announcing the intention to publish a NOFO for FY2025 CoC awards.

On September 29, 2025, Politico reported major changes for the FY 2025 CoC Program NOFO in an expose that was corroborated by multiple sources within HUD.

Major changes as reported by Politico:

- **Reduction in Proposed Budget:** $3.3 billion reduced to $1.1 billion for the CoC Program
- **Permanent Housing Cap**: HUD intends to cap the total amount of funding that each CoC can use for permanent housing, PSH and RRH, to only 30% of CoC funds
- **Anti-DEI Criteria**: Organizations that previously used any type of racial preferences or recognized gender non-conforming or transgender people will be less competitive
- **Deviation for Evidenced-Based Practices**

PRESENTATION – ITEM #4
HOMELESSNESS LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS AND ADVOCACY STRATEGY

FY 2025 CoC Program NOFO Expected Changes

The President's proposed budget, Executive Orders, and the CoC Builds NOFO (issued September 5, 2025) include language indicative of what to expect within the FY25 CoC Program NOFO, including the requirement for agencies to comply with the following:

- No longer follow a Harm Reduction approach
- No longer comply with the Housing First model
- Requiring participation in supportive services
- Requiring treatment and recovery services for participants with substance use
- Only recognizing the sex binary (male/female) of participants
- Removal of any racial preferences
- Prohibition on public camping in the city, county, and state in which the project will be located
- Compliance with federal immigration enforcement

PRESENTATION – ITEM #4
HOMELESSNESS LEGISLATIVE IMPACTS AND ADVOCACY STRATEGY

FY 2025 CoC NOFO Planning

- The Office of Care Coordination convened the executive directors of the CoC-funded agencies and will be meeting with them individually to better understand the potential impact to service provision and operations at the project-level.
- Additional strategies will be better formed once HUD guidance is released, with the goal of preventing people from losing their housing and returning to homelessness.

ACTION – ITEM #5
WEATHER ACTIVATED ROOMS (WARM) PROGRAM

Weather Activated Rooms (WARM) Program

- Recommendation to operate the Weather Activated Rooms (WARM) Program for Families

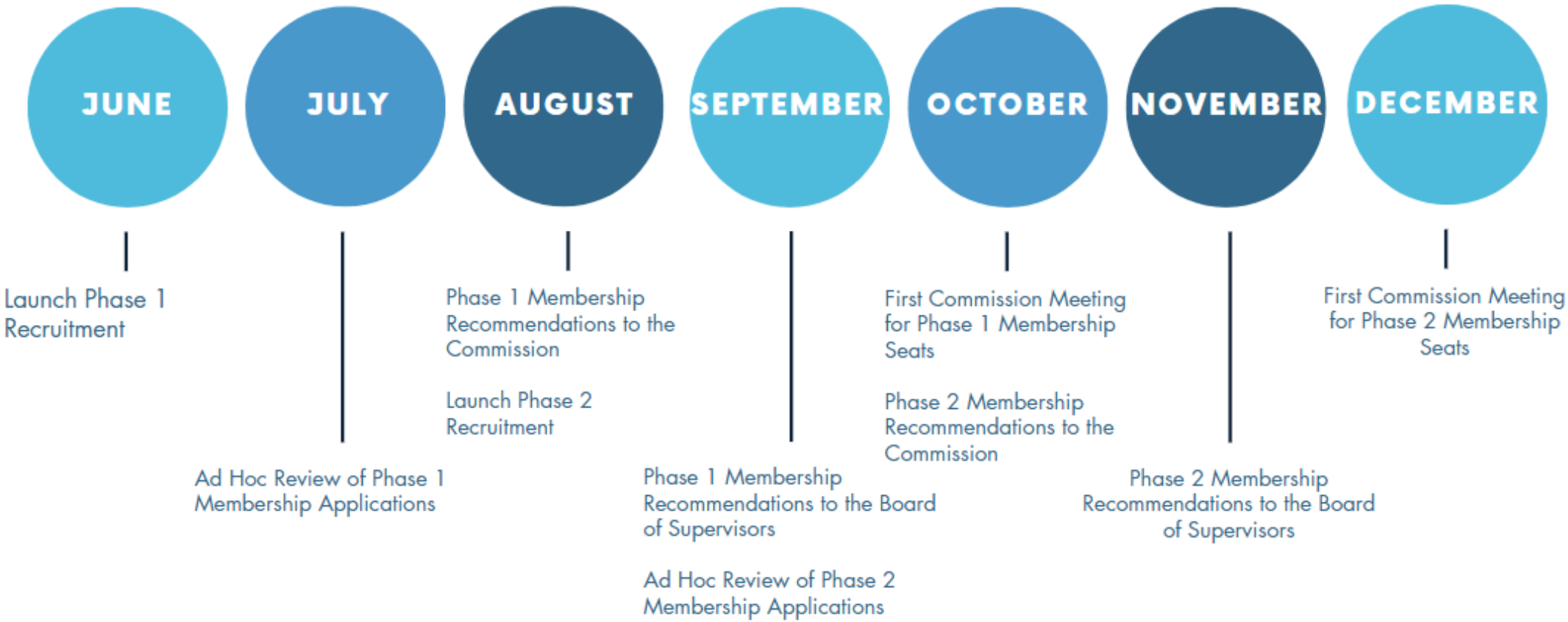
ACTION – ITEM #6
MEMBERSHIP AD HOC COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Membership Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation

a. Approve the recommendation for appointment of the following candidates to serve on the Commission to Address Homelessness as detailed below to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.
   i. Anthony Trejo, Program Manager at HIS-OC, as the individual with Current or Past Lived Experience of Homelessness
   ii. Veronica Kelley, Director of the Orange County Health Care Agency, as the Behavioral Health Representative
   iii. Nathaniel Shinagawa, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of UCI Health, as the Hospital Representative
   iv. Maricela Rios-Faust, Chief Executive Office of Human Options, as the Continuum of Care Board Representative
   v. Robert Morse, Homeless Advocate, as the Continuum of Care Board Representative
   vi. Virgil Asuncion, Commander of Southwest Operations Division, as the Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Department Representative
   vii. Joshua Bobko, Medical Director of Emergency Medical Services at the Orange County Fire Authority, as the At-Large Representative

ACTION – ITEM #6
MEMBERSHIP RECOMMENDATION

Membership Recruitment Timeline



ACTION – ITEM #7
MEETING MINUTES

Commission to Address Homelessness Meeting Minutes

- Approve Commission to Address Homelessness minutes from the August 20, 2025, regular meeting.

ACTION – ITEM #8
MEETING MINUTES

Joint Special Meeting Minutes

- Approve Orange County Continuum of Care Board and the Commission to Address Homelessness minutes from the September 10, 2025, joint special meeting.

ACTION – ITEM #9
REVISED MEETING CALENDAR

Revised 2025 Meeting Schedule Calendar

- Approve revised Commission to Address Homelessness 2025 Meeting Schedule Calendar to amend the December meeting date from December 10, 2025, to December 11, 2025.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Commission to Address Homelessness Meeting

- The next regular meeting is December 11, 2025.

December						
Su	Mo	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			

COUNTY OF ORANGE
OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION

(714) 834 - 5000 | CareCoordination@ceo.oc.gov | ceo.oc.gov/office-care-coordination

H.R.1 Impacts to the Orange County System of Care

Healthcare

This law cuts **Medicaid** funding by approximately $1 trillion dollars over the next 10 years, introduces new eligibility requirements, and gives states broader discretion over coverage. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will work with states to implement a number of these changes starting at the end of 2026, beginning of 2027.

In California, it is expected that up to 3.4 million Medi-Cal members lose coverage, more than $1 billion in federal funding is at risk annually, and there are major disruptions for safety net services.

This law also impacts the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace as it limits enrollment opportunities, imposes new administrative requirements, restricts eligibility for immigration groups, and drastically changes affordability and coverage.

Work Requirements: Persons ages 19 to 64 who are Medicaid eligible due solely to low income, between 100-138% of the federal poverty level or also referred to as the ACA Expansion population, will be required to prove 80 hours of "community engagement activities", at a minimum, in the month prior to requesting Medicaid, and every 6 months thereafter or exemptions.

- **Impact:** In California, an estimated 3 million people may lose coverage. This would drive up the uninsured rate and raise costs for hospitals and clinics treating uninsured patients.
- **Opportunity:** California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is planning to use data sources to automatically exempt people and/or see if they meet their requirements to reduce the burden on individual Medicaid applicants and/or beneficiaries. There is an opportunity to review and assist in identifying data sources at the local or state level that can support the DHCS effort

Address Verifications: Address verifications are part of the bill's efforts to ensure that no one is fraudulently enrolled in two state Medicaid programs, despite limited data to suggest that fraudulent activity occurs. States must develop a process and submit that process to CMS by October 1, 2027.

More Frequent Re-Determinations: Individuals who qualify for Medicaid based solely on low income, will need to reverify their eligibility every six months instead of once a year.

- **Impact:** In California, an estimated 400,000 may lose coverage, which would drive up the uninsured rate and raise costs for hospitals and clinics treating uninsured patients.
- **Opportunity:** The OC Same-Day Solutions Fair, which is hosted throughout Orange County, can serve as an opportunity to provide same-day services and resolve issues related to mainstream benefits including Medicaid re-determinations.

Cost Sharing: Persons who qualify for Medicaid based solely on low income and with income between 100% to 138% of the federal poverty level, will now be required to share costs for coverage. This can mean monthly premiums or copays as services are delivered.

- **Impact**: This may limit timely access to healthcare as persons may delay or forgo care due to financial limitations and/or confusion about the new requirements.

Reduction for Emergency Medical: The new law prohibits states from receiving the 90% enhanced matching rate for emergency services provided to individuals who, but for their immigration status, would have qualified for the ACA optional adult expansion group.

- **Impact:** California will lose the 90% match for emergency Medicaid services, requiring increased General Fund spending and/or rollback of services covered under the emergency Medicaid benefit.

New Limits to Coverage for Lawfully Present Immigrants: The new law makes it harder for states to use federal Medicaid funding to cover immigrants who have a recognized legal immigration status, known as "lawfully present." Before H.R.1 was passed, most immigrants who had been lawfully present in the U.S. for five years could qualify for Medicaid, and states could receive federal matching funds to support their coverage. Under the new law, this coverage option for states will only be available to a small, select number of immigrant groups including Cubans, Haitians green card holders, and those from nations that are part of the Compact for Free Association. Now, states must modify their programs to expect only federal matching funds for the limited number of immigrant groups listed above. These changes are expected to reduce access to care for many immigrants.

- **Impact**: In California, approximately 200,000 immigrant Medi-Cal members will shift from a satisfactory immigration status to unsatisfactory immigration status, thus reducing eligibility to on emergency and pregnancy related.

New Limits to Retroactive Coverage: Retroactive Medicaid coverage allows the program to pay for medical services received up to 90 days before someone officially enrolls as long as they were eligible during that time. Under the new law, states can only fund retroactive coverage for 30 days rather than the previously allowable 90 days. This means

providers who assist those obtaining health insurance can only be paid for efforts 30 days prior to coverage start dates.

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Expansion: One promising change in the new bill is that it allows states to apply for new HCBS waivers to fund services for people who meet certain needs as defined by the state known as "Needs Based Criteria." These waivers will fall under a part of Medicaid law called 1915(c), which allows states to offer HBCS. What is different now is that these waivers will not require people receiving services to meet the Nursing Facility Level of Care (NFLOC) criteria for the state. These waivers can be an opportunity to expand coverage of Housing Related Services and support more people.

Housing

Does not have any provisions that directly impact the Orange County Housing Authority (OCHA); however, reductions in benefits and supportive services will destabilize households likely assisted by OCHA.

Benefits and Support Services

H.R.1 includes significant changes to the **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), known as CalFresh** in California, as the bill is expected to cut federal funding by at least $1.7 billion to $3.7 billion annually in California. This means that up to 395,000 people could lose their benefits which could include access to food, reduced funding for nutrition education and overall safety net for low income and middle-income individuals and families.

Modification of Work Requirements: Persons ages 19 to 64 who do not have children under the age of 14 in their CalFresh households will be required to work. This eliminates exemptions for people experiencing homelessness, adults under age 24 who were in foster care on their 18th birthday and veterans.

- **Impact:** An estimated 303,000 individuals are at risk of losing eligibility.

Noncitizens to Lose Eligibility: Noncitizen eligibility is now limited to lawfully permanent residents; Cuban or Haitian entrants; and individuals who reside in the United States in accordance with Compact of Free Association agreement. This eliminates certain lawfully present noncitizens, such as asylees, refugees, paroles, trafficking victims and others.

Limitations of Standard Utility Allowances: Limits the automatic application of the Standard Utility Allowance based on receipt of a Low-Income Home Emergency Assistance Program payment to household with elderly or disabled members.

Benefit Amounts Capped for Households with 9 or more Members: The Thrifty Food Plan is used to determine the maximum SNAP benefit allotments by household size. Effective October 1, 2025, the benefit allotment for households with 9 or more members is capped to be equivalent to 200% of the Thrifty Food Plan. Furthermore, it also limits increases in benefits due to change in dietary guidelines or rising food costs.

SNAP Education Programs Repealed: Federal funding for the CalFresh Healthy Living program will be sunset at the end of the Federal Fiscal Year 2025.

- **Impact:** This will end nutrition education services to communities with the highest prevalence of obesity and food insecurity. The program and services are part of a coordinated effort with schools, nonprofit and similar local organizations in Orange County to promote public health and prevention of chronic disease.

OC SAME—DAY SOLUTIONS FAIR

July 2025

THE OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION HELD AN OC SAME-DAY SOLUTIONS FAIR ON:
THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025 IN LAKE FOREST
THE FAIR IS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT AIMED AT PROVIDING IMMEDIATE ON-SITE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE IN A CONVENIENT, ACCESSIBLE WAY FOR INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN ORANGE COUNTY WHO ARE WORKING TOWARDS IMPROVING THEIR SITUATION.

PARTICIPANTS SERVED

120

Unduplicated Individuals Participated

SERVICES PROVIDED

585

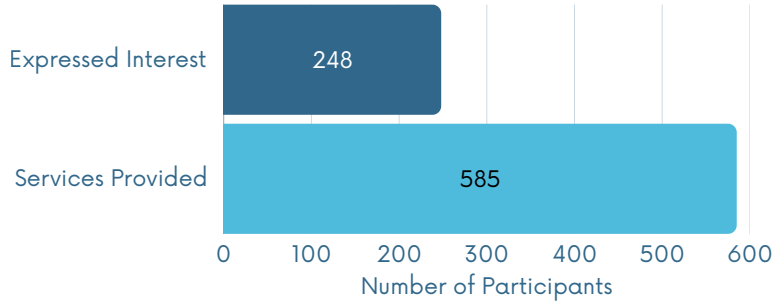
Total Services Provided*



*Homeless Collaborative Court includes OC Public Defender, OC District Attorney, and County of Orange Superior Court.

↑136%

Increase in Services Provided vs. Expressed Interest in Services



*Note: Participants received one or more services from the organization during the OC Same-Day Solutions Fair.

SHELTER REFERRALS

6 Successful Shelter Referrals

26 PROVIDERS*

8 County Departments
16 Community Partners
VA Healthcare
City of Lake Forest

*A comprehensive list of Providers is available upon request.

50+ SERVICES OFFERED*

Same-day services and/or information including, but not limited to:

Public Assistance Benefits
Behavioral Health Services
Health Assessments
Community Based Resources
Emergency Shelter
Child Support Debt
Vital Records
Warrant Inquiries & Legal Assistance

*A comprehensive list of services by Provider is available upon request.

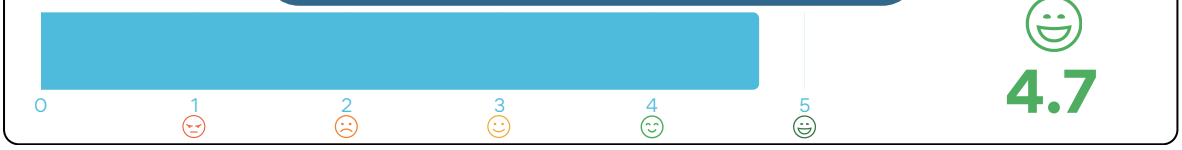
FEEDBACK RECEIVED

To ensure this event is beneficial for all involved, and to ensure continued success of future events, a Survey was collected to gather feedback.

34 Surveys completed by participants

14 Surveys completed by providers

PARTICIPANT SATISFACTION



PROVIDER SATISFACTION



OC SAME—DAY SOLUTIONS FAIR

2025 Summary

THE OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION BEGAN COORDINATING OC SAME-DAY SOLUTIONS FAIRS IN 2025 TO BRING TOGETHER SERVICE PROVIDERS FROM ACROSS ORANGE COUNTY TO HELP STREAMLINE ASSISTANCE AND REDUCE BARRIERS TO CARE FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES EXPERIENCING OR AT-RISK OF HOMELESSNESS.

EVENT DETAILS

SANTA ANA	LAKE FOREST	ORANGE
SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH 4300 WESTMINSTER AVE, 92703	SADDLEBACK CHURCH 1 SADDLEBACK PKWY, 92630	THE HUB RESOURCE CENTER 517 W STRUCK AVE, 92867
MARCH 27, 2025	JULY 24, 2025	SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

PARTICIPANTS

SANTA ANA
169

LAKE FOREST
120

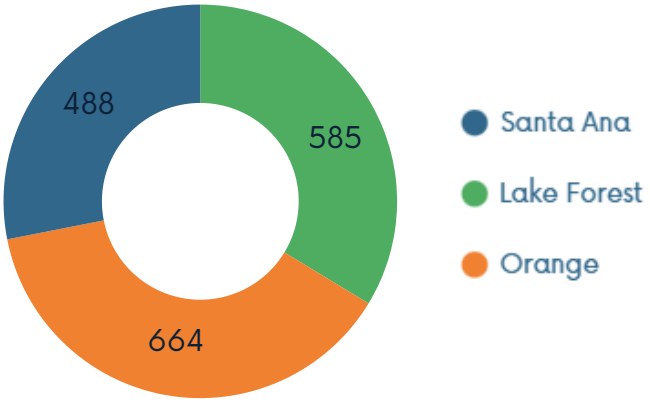
ORANGE
235

*Unduplicated Individuals Per Event

SERVICES

1,737

Total Services Provided*

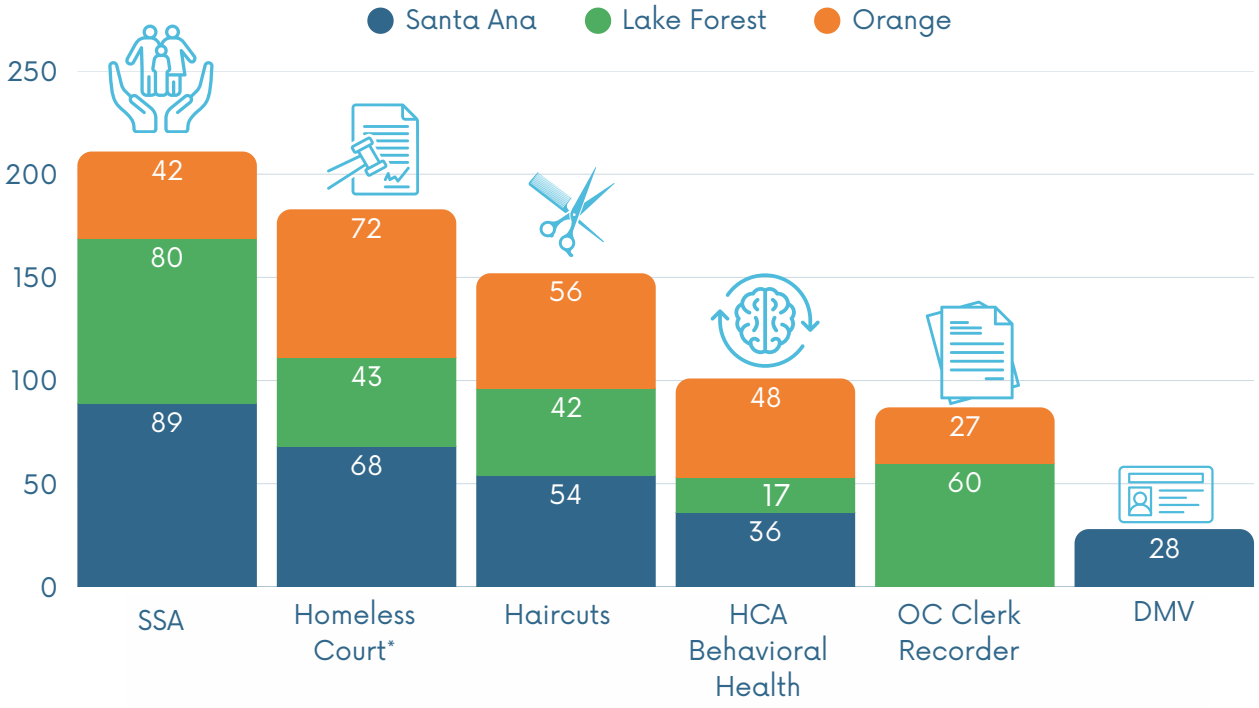


*Note: Participants received one or more services from the organization during the OC Same-Day Solutions Fair.

SHELTER REFERRALS



TOP SERVICES PROVIDED

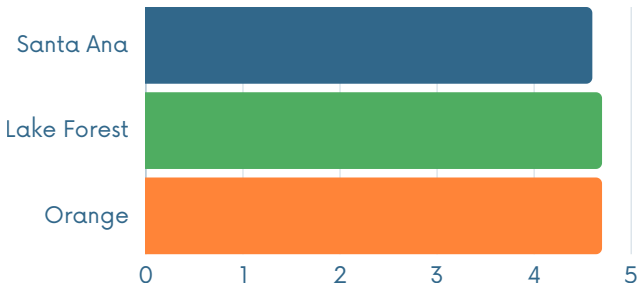


*Homeless Collaborative Court includes OC Public Defender, OC District Attorney, and County of Orange Superior Court.

FEEDBACK RECEIVED

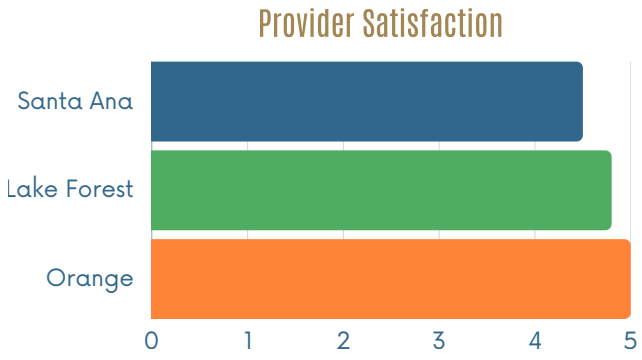
165 Total Surveys completed by participants

Average Participant Satisfaction **4.7**



33 Total Surveys completed by providers

Average Provider Satisfaction **4.8**



OC SAME—DAY SOLUTIONS FAIR

September 2025

THE OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION HELD AN OC SAME-DAY SOLUTIONS FAIR ON:
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025 IN ORANGE
THE FAIR IS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT AIMED AT PROVIDING IMMEDIATE ON-SITE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE IN A CONVENIENT, ACCESSIBLE WAY FOR INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN ORANGE COUNTY WHO ARE WORKING TOWARDS IMPROVING THEIR SITUATION.

PARTICIPANTS SERVED

236

Unduplicated Individuals Participated

SERVICES PROVIDED

664

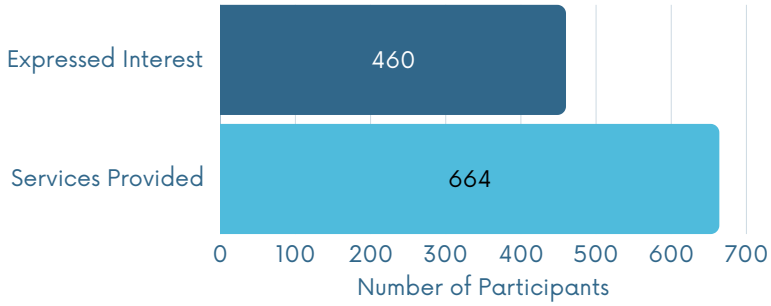
Total Services Provided*



*Homeless Collaborative Court includes OC Public Defender, OC District Attorney, and County of Orange Superior Court.

↑ 44%

Increase in Services Provided vs. Expressed Interest in Services



*Note: Participants received one or more services from the organization during the OC Same-Day Solutions Fair.

SHELTER REFERRALS

5 Successful Shelter Referrals

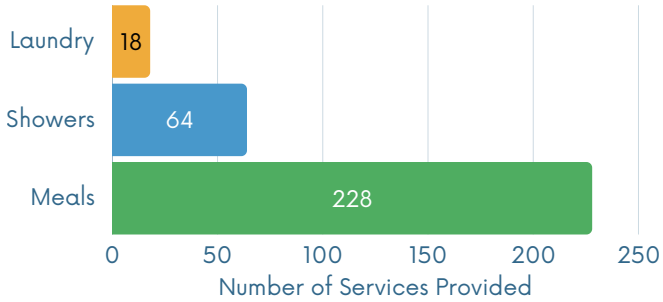
19 PROVIDERS*

8 County Departments
7 Community Partners

The HUB Resource Center
City of Orange

*A comprehensive list of Providers is available upon request.

310 SERVICES THROUGH THE HUB



The HUB Resource Center provided 310 services during the OC Same-Day Solutions Fair including meals, access to showers, and laundry.

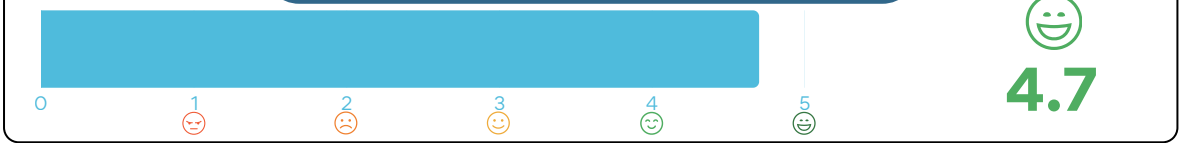
FEEDBACK RECEIVED

To ensure this event is beneficial for all involved, and to ensure continued success of future events, a Survey was collected to gather feedback.

65 Surveys completed by participants

7 Surveys completed by providers

PARTICIPANT SATISFACTION



PROVIDER SATISFACTION





SMALL-SCALE HOUSING SUMMIT

DATE: NOVEMBER 5, 2025

LOCATION: COUNTY CONFERENCE CENTER
630 N. BROADWAY STREET, SANTA ANA CA 92701

RSVP: Vicente.Sarmiento@ocgov.com

TIME: 9:30 A.M. - Networking / Check in
10:00 A.M. - Summit

JOIN SUPERVISOR SARMIENTO TO DISCUSS INNOVATIVE HOUSING OPTIONS

COUNTY OF ORANGE CALIFORNIA

Vicente Sarmiento
SUPERVISOR, 2nd DISTRICT

