

ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, December 17, 2025
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location:

**County Administration South (CAS) Building
County 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: 941 3616 4277**

****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@ceo.oc.gov. 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 Continuum of Care (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 – Nichole Gideon, Secretary

Secretary, Nichole Gideon called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Jasmin Miranda, Interim CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Present: Judson Brown, Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Andrew Crowe, Nichole Gideon, Shakoya Green-Long, Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Marisol Johnson, Melanie McQueen, Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Maricela Rios-Faust, George Searcy, and Tim Shaw.

Absent Excused: LaVal Brewer, Sandra Lozeau, Sammie MarTínez, Nishtha Mohendra, and Dr. Shauntina Sorrells

Absent: Talesha Payne

Becks Heyhoe-Khalil arrived during Public Comments. Marisol Johnson arrived during Business Item 2 and did not vote on Business Item 1. Andrew Crowe left during Business Item 5.

Public Comments: 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@ceo.oc.gov. 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.

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.

- Dawn Price announced that Friendship Shelter has selected Nishtha Mohendra as its next Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Dawn Price expressed excitement that a colleague will be stepping into the role on March 1, 2026.
- Becks Heyhoe-Khalil provided an update on the “Person in Front of You” campaign by Orange County United Way (OCUW). Becks Heyhoe-Khalil noted a link will be shared to all CoC Board Members to the media created for Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, highlighting the incredible energy and commitment shown by participants. The campaign’s “House” visual represented the impact of homelessness and hunger, noting 359,000 individuals experiencing hunger, 17,154 people who lost homes and entered homelessness, and 1,500 seniors and children who lost housing in 2025. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil emphasized the hope that these images and videos can be widely used to raise awareness about why this work matters.

- Jason Phillips read the names of individuals who have passed experiencing homelessness in October 2025 and shared a poem in remembrance and recognition.
- Robert “Santa Bob” Morse wished happy holidays to all attendees.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve the CoC Board minutes from October 22, 2025.
2. Receive and file the CoC Strategic Plan monthly update.
3. Approve the 2026 CoC Board Meeting Calendar, as recommended by the Office of Care Coordination.
4. Receive and file list of agencies and jurisdictions approved for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) access from August 22, 2025, to December 15, 2025.

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approved Consent Calendar Items 1 through 4. Maricela Rios-Faust seconded the motion. Secretary Nichole Gideon called for a voice vote. No nays, no abstentions. The motion passed.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. **CoC Strategic Plan Working Group** – Aubrey Sitler, ACStrategies and Felicia Boehringer, Interim CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Felicia Boehringer provided an update on the background from September 24, 2025, CoC Board Meeting, where the initial implementation of the CoC Strategic Plan was approved, along with prioritizing Year 1 strategies for execution. The Office of Care Coordination explored various options for creating a collaborative space and determined that establishing a working group would be the most effective approach. Felicia Boehringer explained this group will allow Strategy Owners and other key entities to connect and engage in meaningful discussions.

Aubrey Sitler emphasized leading this working group to allow all Strategy Owners to maintain strong communication and advancing initiatives efficiently. Aubrey Sitler noted that visible collaboration will help ensure that tasks are completed effectively and progress is made toward achieving strategic goals.

Recommended Action a: Establish a CoC Strategic Plan Working Group that will include participation from Strategy Owners of CoC Board-approved prioritized Strategies.

Andrew Crowe motioned to approved Business Calendar Item 1. Dawn Price seconded the motion. Secretary Nichole Gideon called for a voice vote. No nays, no abstentions. The motion passed.

2. **New CalAIM Community Support: Transitional Rent** – Mia Arias, Director of CalAIM Operations, CalOptima Health

Mia Arias provided an overview of a new community support initiative launching on January 1, 2026, which will offer six months of rental assistance to individuals at risk of homelessness who meet specific eligibility criteria. The program is designed to serve as an on-ramp to stability, ensuring participants have housing plans in place and can sustain transitional housing after the rental assistance period ends. Mia Arias emphasized under the program, CalOptima Health will contract with the Orange County Health Care Agency.

3. **Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Update** – Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations and Felicia Boehringer, Interim CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Zulima Lundy provided an update regarding the withdrawal of the FY 2025 CoC Program NOFO and stated the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) intent to reissue a modified version. Zulima Lundy explained that HUD submitted a response to the courts earlier this week, noting the timeline for appropriating funds for FY 2024 - 2025 CoC Program NOFO and the obligation to expend those funds by September 2027. The Office of Care Coordination will continue monitoring court hearings and share updates as they become available. Zulima Lundy mentioned hearing preliminary indications that a revised CoC NOFO may potentially be released.

Zulima Lundy also shared that the Office of Care Coordination recently attended a conference in San Diego, which convened CoC applicants and provided an opportunity to share information. Zulima Lundy stated that Agency Administrative Reviews will still move forward to ensure agencies meet HUD's minimum standards and maintain compliance. Zulima Lundy emphasized the importance of collaboration among CoC-funded agencies, noting that those most directly impacted should remain engaged and actively participate in discussions.

Felicia Boehringer added that updated submission documents and resources are available for review. Felicia Boehringer encouraged agencies to reach out via email with any questions and noted that a local Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) has been compiled and posted online. Felicia Boehringer acknowledged the volume of information and assured attendees that the Office of Care Coordination is working diligently to keep the webpage current and accessible.

Board Member Discussion:

- Maricela Rios-Faust shared that during the recent Commission to Address Homelessness meeting, an emergency motion was passed to send a letter for advocacy to the Orange County Board of Supervisors for approval, emphasizing the importance of this work. Maricela Rios-Faust noted that every commission member present supported the action, which aligns with similar discussions held in prior meetings. Maricela Rios-Faust also mentioned anticipating adjustments when discussing the Strategy Plan with Dr. Tiffany Mitchell and Aubrey Sitler of written standards, based on the NOFO developments and broader strategic priorities.
- Tim Shaw encouraged attendees to subscribe to resources such as the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) and National Low Income Housing Coalition newsletters. Tim Shaw highlighted these as valuable tools for staying informed and understanding key terminology in the field.
- Becks Heyhoe-Khalil shared plans to connect with U.S. House Representative Young Kim and will reach out to some CoC Board members to assist with upcoming advocacy efforts.

4. CoC Board Recommendations – Felicia Boehringer, Interim CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Felicia Boehringer provided background on the CoC Nominating Ad Hoc, which was established at the August 27, 2025. CoC Board meeting. Felicia Boehringer shared that the Ad Hoc met between September and December to review processes prior to the CoC Board meeting, recruit CoC Board nominations, and discuss the nomination and election process, including outreach and submission procedures. Felicia Boehringer also shared details about the voting tool, noting that representation was a key consideration; and based on feedback from CoC Board members, it was determined that seven (7) members would be an appropriate number for the Ad Hoc.

Secretary Nichole Gideon led a special acknowledgment to LaVal Brewer, Talesha Payne, Dawn Price, and George Searcy for their longtime service on the CoC Board, recognizing their contributions and presented certification of appreciation as they step down from their roles at the end of the year.

Board Member Discussion:

- Maricela Rios-Faust expressed appreciation for the unique governance practices that George Searcy brings to keep the group connected to core issues while addressing critical questions. Maricela Rios-Faust shared her gratitude for Dawn Price’s ability to keep discussions grounded, noting that leadership has been a gift during times of rapid change. Maricela Rios-Faust emphasized the knowledge learned from observing Dawn Price and George Searcy approaches.
- Tim Shaw reflected on the impact of Dawn Price and George Searcy, describing them as champions of the work despite challenges. Tim Shaw shared personal engagement in homeless services efforts dates back and credited both leaders for inspiring the return to active involvement. Tim Shaw highlighted Dawn Price balance, system knowledge, and courage to hold convictions while fostering respectful dialogue. Tim Shaw praised George Searcy’s ability to synthesize complex issues and serve as a mentor, noting that their wisdom will continue to benefit the community and future efforts.
- Becks Heyhoe-Khalil also expressed gratitude, thanking Dawn Price and George Searcy for their generosity with time and leadership. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil acknowledged the willingness to listen and support others, emphasizing how each of their commitment has helped grow new leaders within the community and strengthened collective efforts to address homelessness.

Recommended Action a: Ratify the results from the CoC Board election to appoint the following candidates to the CoC Board for the term of January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2028.

- (1) Andrew Crowe
- (2) Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala
- (3) Kelita Gardner
- (4) Becks Heyhoe-Khalil
- (5) Nishtha Mohendra
- (6) Tim Shaw
- (7) Dr. Shauntina Sorrells

Becks Heyhoe-Khalil motioned to approved Business Calendar Item 4. Melanie McQueen seconded the motion. Secretary Nichole Gideon called for a voice vote. No nays, Andrew Crowe abstained. The motion passed.

5. 2026 Point-In-Time (PIT) Count – Felicia Boehringer, Interim CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Felicia Boehringer shared updates on the 2026 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, including Service Planning Area (SPA) deployment center dates and the launch of the volunteer portal website. Felicia Boehringer explained that social media efforts have been launched, and a media kit with flyers is being prepared to boost community engagement. Felicia Boehringer noted that a training schedule for in-person and virtual sessions will be announced soon. Felicia Boehringer also highlighted the subpopulation efforts and a potential phone line for families and transitional aged youth (TAY).

Board Member Discussion:

- George Searcy emphasized the need to address misconceptions and distrust surrounding the PIT Count, noting that these perceptions hinder collaboration. George Searcy suggested engaging stakeholders in transparent conversations about methodology and strategy to build trust and strengthen participation.
- Becks Heyhoe-Khalil highlighted past efforts, including Orange County United Way Community Chats on PIT results in partnership with City Net and the Office of Care Coordination. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil proposed expanding these conversations, leveraging events like the National Day of Homelessness, and promoting “Come and Be Counted” sites to ensure families and youth are included. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil also suggested offering Homelessness 101 sessions and public education initiatives through partnerships with Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) and other organizations.

- Dawn Price stressed the importance of maintaining methodological consistency to avoid unintended data issues and shared lessons learned from previous counts.
- Tim Shaw supported targeted education and advocacy, particularly for influential stakeholders who question PIT data, and recommended developing a communication strategy to counter misinformation.
- Maricela Rios-Faust encouraged aligning short- and long-term actions with transparency in data analysis and strategic planning.
- Nichole Gideon noted challenges with community engagement amid increasing criminalization and suggested finding ways to alleviate fears from potential unhoused individuals to boost participation.
- Melanie McQueen recommended to the group to incorporate previous data feedback and urged a team approach, highlighting volunteer engagement and frontline staff involvement.
- Dr. Tiffany Mitchell proposed strategies to engage populations that may feel unsafe, using trusted organizations to encourage participation.
- Robert “Santa Bob” Morse recommended forming an ad hoc committee to sustain ongoing communication efforts.

6. HMIS Lead Updates – Erin DeRycke, Director, Data Analytics, 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC), Orange County United Way

Erin DeRycke provided an update on the Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) and System Performance Measures (SPM), which are HUD’s annual data submissions required from each CoC. The LSA is due January 16, 2026, and the SPM is due in February 2026. Erin DeRycke explained that the team is currently reviewing and updating data as needed, as SPM results directly impact scoring on the CoC application. Erin DeRycke noted that the CoC has historically lost points in this area and emphasized the importance of accurate data to improve performance. Erin DeRycke presented challenges in connecting data across systems and stressed the need for collaboration with HMIS-participating agencies to resolve issues and improve overall scores. Erin DeRycke also discussed updates to project performance reports, the status of data request approvals by the CoC Board, and upcoming trainings and meetings to HMIS-focused efforts.

7. Orange County Homelessness Updates – Douglas Becht, Director and Jasmin Miranda, Interim CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Douglas Becht provided an update on the Commission to Address Homelessness membership changes, including adjustments to the by-laws to clearly outline expectations for each commissioner. Douglas Becht shared updates on an emergency motion to submit a letter of advocacy to HUD for approval by the Orange County Board of Supervisors, which ultimately didn’t get approved, although individual Supervisor Office will sign onto letters. Additionally, Douglas Becht highlighted OC Same Day Solutions Fair efforts and announced that Supervisorial District 2 has activated winter shelter funding and partnered with Pathways of HOPE to begin implementation on January 1, 2026. This initiative will work with the local school district to identify families in need and ensure successful program delivery.

Jasmin Miranda provided an update on the upcoming 2026 Sheltered and Housing Inventory Count. Jasmin Miranda emphasized the importance of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) funding that was approved at the recent Board of Supervisors meeting, that would allow ramp up efforts and fulfill obligations related to expenditures.

Jason Phillips motioned to adjourn. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil seconded the motion. Secretary Nichole Gideon adjourned the meeting at 4:02 p.m.

8. Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 21, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.