

ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, May 27, 2026
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: 917 1260 5590**

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

MINUTES

Board Members

Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana
Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, CalOptima Health
Andrew Crowe, Scholarship Prep
Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala, Project Hope Alliance
Kelita Gardner, Second Baptist Church of Santa Ana
Nichole Gideon, Individual
Shakoya Green Long, Individual
Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, OC United Way
Marisol Johnson, Dayle McIntosh Center
Sandra Lozeau, City of Anaheim

Melanie McQueen, PATH
Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Orangewood Foundation
[Secretary]
Nishtha Mohendra, Friendship Shelter [Vice Chair]
Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Individual
Jason Phillips, Individual
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options [Chair]
Tim Shaw, Individual
Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Individual

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 – Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair

Chair Maricela Rios-Faust called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Secretary

Present: Judson Brown, Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala, Kelita Gardner, Nichole Gideon, Marisol Johnson, Sandra Lozeau, Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Jason Phillips, Maricela Rios-Faust, Tim Shaw, and Dr. Shauntina Sorrells

Absent Excused: Shakoya Green-Long, Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Melanie McQueen, and Nishtha Mohendra and Robert “Santa Bob” Morse

Absent: Andrew Crowe and Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson

Dr. Shauntina Sorrells arrived during Board Member Comments.

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.

- Tim Shaw acknowledged new graduate and CoC Board Member Nichole Gideon, highlighting accomplishments on both a personal and professional level.
- Maricela Rios-Faust agreed with Tim Shaw and echoed appreciation for Nichole Gideon’s leadership, time and dedication to the CoC Board.
- Jason Phillips read the names of individuals who passed while experiencing homelessness in April 2026, in remembrance and recognition.
- Dr. Shauntina Sorrells congratulated Nichole Gideon and expressed gratitude for continued volunteerism and involvement. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells recognized Nichole Gideon’s strength, integrity, and meaningful contributions that will continue to happen moving forward.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve CoC Board Meeting Minutes from April 22, 2026.
2. Receive and file memo regarding Orange County United Way's United to End Homelessness's aggregate data request for the revised timeframe of January 1, 2024, through March 31, 2026, as recommended by the CoC Board Officers.

Sandra Lozeau motioned to approve the Consent Calendar. Jason Phillips seconded the motion. Maricela Rios-Faust called for a voice vote. No nays, no abstentions, the motion passed.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. **Good News Story: Families Forward** – Kathy Lopez, Director of Programs, Families Forward

Kathy Lopez shared a good news story about a family who had been evicted due to job loss and found themselves couch surfing and living in their car in Orange County. Through support from a Families Forward case manager and career coach, the family has now secured stable housing and employment, helping them move toward long-term sustainability.

2. **CoC Strategic Plan Implementation Update** – Aubrey Sitler, Independent Consultant, ACStrategies; Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair; Nishtha Mohendra, Vice Chair; Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Secretary; and Strategy Owners

Aubrey Sitler provided an overview of the CoC Strategic Plan, inclusive of the original Vision Ad Hoc Committee's work that led to the full approval and implementation of the Orange County CoC Strategic Plan. In September 2025, the CoC Board approved the Year 1 Strategy's coupled with the Strategic Goals for implementation. Aubrey Sitler presented the framework of the CoC Strategic Plan, outlining the Vision, Goals, Strategic Aims, Objectives, Strategies and Actions included. Further, Aubrey Sitler, noted that Strategy Owners have full authority to assign strategies and milestones.

Strategy Owners provided updates related to each prioritized strategy for Year 1.

- Maricela Rios-Faust provided an update on Strategy 1: Staff Training on behalf of Andrew Crowe and Robert "Santa Bob" Morse, noting that updates are pending.
- Timothy Kirkconnell shared updates on the milestones for Strategy 2: Coordinated Investment Mapping, including adjustments to the timeline for certain deadlines extending into Year 2. Timothy Kirkconnell also provided updates on the milestones for Strategy 3: Collaboration with People with Lived Experience, noting that some dates were shifted to allow adequate training, capacity-building, and onboarding as the Youth Action Board (YAB) is established.
- Nichole Gideon provided an update on the development of a policy agenda as part as Strategy 4, noting strong examples from other CoCs and sharing that a plan for gathering feedback is in process.
- Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, on behalf of Melanie McQueen, provided a brief update on Strategy 5: Improve Data Collection and Analysis efforts. Dr. Tiffany Mitchell noted that the current state of data collection is limited, but work is ongoing and will evolve as the process continues.
- Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala shared updates on Strategy 6: Written Standards, emphasizing the importance of integrating standards, responding to Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) changes, and building policies and processes with intentionality.
- Dr. Shauntina Sorrells reported on progress with the work being led by Element Consulting Group, as part of Strategy 7: Coordinated Entry System (CES) Evaluation, including the facilitation of a survey and focus groups. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells noted that materials have been submitted, reviewed and received feedback. The first round of focus groups has been conducted, with additional groups planned to

ensure all populations are represented. Next steps included developing maps for each subpopulation. Although the team is slightly behind schedule, they are moving forward and have completed the quantitative data phase and are wrapping up qualitative data collection.

- Tim Shaw provided an update on Strategy 8: Evaluation of Key Partners, related to the process for the evaluating the CoC Board and Collaborative Applicant. Tim Shaw shared the ad hoc committee, comprised of past CoC Board Chairs and Aubrey Sitler, reviewed other evaluation models and developed a project timeline. The ad hoc has created a stakeholder engagement plan focused on efficiency and meaningful input. A draft will be prepared for the CoC Board and Collaborative Applicant leadership to review and discuss.

Maricela Rios-Faust thanked the Year 1 Strategy Owners for their leadership, work, and updates.

3. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) and Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) – Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator and Timothy Kirkconnell, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Due to time restrictions, Business Calendar Item 3 was moved to Item 5 on the agenda.

Timothy Kirkconnell shared that on April 22, 2026, HUD posted the forecasted Youth Homelessness NOFO for FY2024 and FY2025, with an expected release date of May 15, 2026, and estimated submission date of July 29, 2026. The NOFO will include funding for both YHDP and YHSI to support a comprehensive youth homelessness response system. Timothy Kirkconnell also noted that the Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant, plans to collaborate closely with Orange County United Way, youth-serving providers in the TAY Collaborative, and other partners. Timothy Kirkconnell stated that approval of the recommended action will allow the CoC to submit a competitive application that could bring additional resources to youth experiencing homelessness in Orange County.

Recommended Action:

- a. Approve the Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC, to apply for funding under the YHDP and YHSI NOFO for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and FY 2025.

Tim Shaw motioned to approve the Recommended Action. Nichole Gideon seconded the motion. During discussion, an amended motion was introduced by Dr. Shauntina Sorrells.

Amended Recommended Action:

- a. Approve the Orange County CoC to apply for YHDP and YHSI funding as the NOFO states, and allow the CoC Board Officers to make a decision on the lead applicant following the NOFO guidance.

Tim Shaw motioned to approve the Amended Recommended Action. Nichole Gideon seconded the motion. Maricela Rios-Faust issued a roll call vote. Judson Brown, Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala, Kelita Gardner, Nichole Gideon, Marisol Johnson, Sandra Lozeau, Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Jason Phillips, Maricela Rios-Faust, Tim Shaw, and Dr. Shauntina Sorrells voted yes. No nays, no abstentions, the motion passed.

Board Member Comments:

- Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala asked whether there were concerns about the Office of Care Coordination serving as the Collaborative Applicant for the upcoming CoC Program NOFO and requested clarity on what collaboration looks like in practice, particularly for frontline staff and youth. Dr. Shelby Feliciano-

Sabala highlighted the need for flexibility in the application process, noting that much youth input is not captured in HMIS or CoC-funded programs.

- Dr. Shauntina Sorrells noted that YHDP requires extensive collaboration and engagement with youth-serving providers. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells emphasized waiting for the NOFO release to determine the best administrative fit and how to maximize flexibility and efficiency. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells noted that the CoC Board previously designated Orange County United Way as a lead applicant, and that an amendment may be needed in the recommended action. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells highlighted a need for strong youth decision-making through the YAB and partnerships with youth-serving agencies.
- Maricela Rios-Faust asked whether a Request for Proposal (RFP) process would be required if the NOFO allows for a lead applicant other than the Collaborative Applicant for the CoC.
- Dr. Tiffany Mitchell asked about lessons learned and areas for improvement from the last YHDP/YHSI application cycle.
- Tim Shaw acknowledged challenges related to expertise and praised the collaborative work, including racial equity assessments and strengthened representation within the Orange County CoC Board.

4. CoC Program Funding – Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations and Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Due to time restrictions, Business Calendar Item 4 was moved to Item 6 on the agenda.

Zulima Lundy provided updates on the FY 2025 CoC Program NOFO litigation and confirmed that all Quarter 2, 3, and 4 awards have been accepted for another year. Zulima Lundy outlined planning expectations for the FY 2026 CoC Program NOFO, noting it is anticipated to be released no later than June 1, 2026, with awards made by December 1, 2026. Further Zulima Lundy stated that Tier 1 will be set at no less than 60% of the CoC Annual Renewal Demand. Zulima Lundy shared that the Office of Care Coordination is using the FY 2025 NOFO as a guide for planning and encouraged engagement at local, state, and federal levels as ideas develop. Zulima Lundy also noted that questions submitted to the team will be compiled into a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document to improve access to information. Zulima Lundy concluded with a brief update on the forecasted release of the CoC Builds NOFO.

Board Members Comments:

- Nichole Gideon asked for clarification on whether all programs and projects in the FY 2025 CoC NOFO were awarded an additional year of funding.
- Maricela Rios-Faust noted that the topic of planning for the FY2026 CoC Program NOFO surfaced during the CoC Strategic Plan working group and offered support as needed. Maricela Rios-Faust added that some Domestic Violence (DV) agencies have successfully sued to avoid certain mandated contract language, highlighting the need for awareness of these nuances.
- Tim Shaw emphasized the importance of broad engagement for the upcoming CoC NOFO, particularly ensuring LGBTQ+ organizations such as Alianza and the LGBTQ Center are included, noting the risk of exclusion if not intentionally invited.
- Kelita Gardner expressed appreciation for outreach to faith-based organizations in the Black community to ensure equitable participation.
- Nichole Gideon thanked Zulima Lundy and noted the importance of this work for individuals with lived experience who may be directly affected.

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

Due to time restrictions, Business Calendar Item 5 was moved to Item 7 on the agenda.

Zulima Lundy provided an update on the HHAP budget summary and spend-downs, including obligation and expenditure timelines for Rounds 2, 3, and 5. Zulima Lundy shared updates from the HHAP Program Ad Hoc Committee, including recommendations for system support and timelines for ramping down activities. Zulima Lundy noted that future recommendations for prevention and permanent housing will depend on the release of the FY 2026 CoC Program NOFO and how eligible funding categories align with operational needs. Zulima Lundy highlighted continued funding for ACStrategies to support the CoC Strategic Plan and system support for compensating people with lived experience, while noting sustainability concerns as HHAP funding expires in 2028. Zulima Lundy also outlined a recommendation to support permanent housing delivery for CoC programs that may be affected by upcoming NOFO parameters, with more details to be brought back to the CoC Board.

Recommended Actions:

- b. Approve the following recommendations obligating HHAP Round 5 funding, as recommended by the HHAP Ad Hoc:
 - (1) Approve the obligation of \$60,995.25 of HHAP Round 5 funding under the Systems Support eligible use category to partially fund the consulting contract with ACStrategies in Fiscal Year (FY)26-27 and FY27-28 to support the ongoing implementation of the CoC Strategic Plan.
 - (2) Approve the obligation of \$200,000 of HHAP Round 5 funding under the Systems Support eligible use category to partially fund the Compensation for People with Lived Experience Program contracted with Orange County United Way in FY26-27.
 - (3) Approve the obligation of \$1,511,790.38 of HHAP Round 5 funding under the Permanent Housing Delivery eligible use category to support impacted CoC Program-funded projects that may receive delayed awards or may be ramping down, noting that additional criteria for programming the funding is forthcoming, pending the FY2026 CoC Program NOFO release.

Amended Recommended Action:

- b. Approve the following recommendations obligating HHAP Round 5 funding, as recommended by the HHAP Ad Hoc:
 - (1) Approve the obligation of \$60,995.25 of HHAP Round 5 funding under the Systems Support or Administrative Costs eligible use category to partially fund the consulting contract with ACStrategies in Fiscal Year FY26-27 and FY27-28 to support the ongoing implementation of the CoC Strategic Plan.

Judson Brown motioned to approve Amended Recommended Actions b1 and Recommended Action b2 and b3. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells seconded the motion. Maricela Rios-Faust issued a roll call vote. Judson Brown, Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala, Kelita Gardner, Nichole Gideon, Marisol Johnson, Sandra Lozeau, Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Jason Phillips, Maricela Rios-Faust, Tim Shaw, and Dr. Shauntina Sorrells voted yes. No nays, no abstentions, the motion passed.

Board Members Comments:

- Judson Brown encouraged a conservative approach to the third recommendation and asked whether administrative funds from HHAP (up to 7%) had been considered, including whether ACStrategies could be supported through those costs.
- Dr. Shauntina Sorrells suggested postponing further discussion on administrative cost allocation, further noting the importance of the funding to support Aubrey Sitler's consulting work and requested

additional context on the proposed recommendation to use funds for program ramp-down. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells stated the ad hoc plans to have broader discussion regarding utilizing administrative costs funding.

- Tim Shaw emphasized the value of Aubrey Sitler's contributions, noting ACStrategies' programmatic and administrative expertise and national perspective. Tim Shaw expressed strong support for moving ACStrategies contract forward without delay.
- Judson Brown agreed that funding sources should remain flexible and recommended leaving final decisions to the ad hoc members.

6. 2026 Orange County Point In Time Count – Douglas Becht, Director, Office of Care Coordination

Due to time restrictions, Business Calendar Item 6 was moved to Item 8 on the agenda.

Douglas Becht presented an overview of the 2026 Point in Time (PIT) Count methodology and results. Douglas Becht reviewed total homelessness numbers, year-to-year comparisons from 2019, 2022, 2024, and 2026, for counts by Service Planning Area, including sheltered versus unsheltered trends. Douglas Becht noted a continued shift toward higher shelter rates and fewer unsheltered individuals. Additionally, updates were provided on data relating to subpopulations, disabling conditions, and household types. Douglas Becht reported that most individuals experiencing homelessness spend the majority of their time in Orange County, with 76% reporting their last permanent address in an Orange County city. Douglas Becht highlighted key takeaways showing reductions in overall and unsheltered homelessness and thanked all partners who supported the 2026 PIT Count effort.

Board Member Comments:

- Maricela Rios-Faust requested clarification on the subpopulation and demographic numbers shown in the presentation. Maricela Rios-Faust noted that this data is used in the election and decision-making process and emphasized the need for practical ways to strengthen it.
- Tim Shaw expressed concern that missing data prevents accurate representation of certain subpopulations, including LGBTQ+ communities, noting this could contribute to erasure and limit future analysis.
- Dr. Shelby Felacino-Sabala asked about first-time homelessness data, safety concerns for undocumented individual in unsheltered areas, and factors contributing to increases among seniors and TAY.
- Dr. Shauntina Sorrells asked whether there were plans to fill additional CoC Board seats aligned with specific representation needs.
- Nichole Gideon commented on how recent legal changes regarding law enforcement of encampments may have influenced street count numbers, but also noted positive outcomes associated with Permanent Support Housing (PSH) and getting more individuals into shelter.
- Judson Brown highlighted encouraging trends, including decreases in homelessness since 2019, and emphasized the long-term impact of PSH investments and Department of Housing and Urban Development – Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) vouchers.
- Dr. Tiffany Mitchell reflected on the fluctuations between 2019 and 2026 and expressed interest in understanding long-term trends as future counts are completed.

7. HMIS Lead Updates – Erin DeRycke, Director, Data Analytics, 211OC, Orange County United Way

Due to time restrictions, Business Calendar Item 7 was moved to Item 3 on the agenda.

Erin DeRycke provided HMIS and performance updates, noting that emergency-shelter length of stay continues to rise. Erin DeRycke also reported that the length-of-homelessness measure is losing federal scoring points, affecting new project funding. To address this, HMIS will review historical records prior to January 1, 2015, strengthen data-quality training, and assess shelter policies and project types. Planned improvements include quarterly trainings, new data-review modules, one-on-one support, correction files, and quarterly data report cards, with progress shared with the CoC Board. Erin DeRycke reported that one agency has reviewed about 20% of older records, while another still has 48% needing updates. Additional agencies are completing corrections. Erin DeRycke also noted recent performance report releases, data requests, and upcoming trainings.

Board Member Comments:

- Dr. Shauntina Sorrells acknowledged the significant hours the HMIS team has spent completing data requests. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells asked for clarity on HUD-required data parameters.
- Kelita Gardner asked whether the 48% error rate related to data quality was due to staffing limitations and whether contracted support is possible, noting this would require funding and training.
- Maricela Rios-Faust asked if agencies could decline to update HMIS records. Maricela Rios-Faust suggested reviewing HMIS Policies and Procedures to strengthen requirements for data entry and corrections.
- Tim Shaw requested clarification on the types and frequency of data-entry errors and whether they are widespread or limited to a few agencies.
- Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala asked whether data costs are allowable as direct or indirect expenses within provider contracts.

8. Orange County Homelessness Updates – Douglas Becht, Director and Timothy Kirkconnell, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Due to time restrictions, Business Calendar Item 8 was moved to Item 4 on the agenda.

Zulima Lundy reminded the CoC Board Members about upcoming end-of-fiscal year contracts and the need to ensure all contracted partners are prepared to submit all appropriate documents in a timely manner. Additionally, shared an update on HHAP Round 7, noting that the State released its updated budget with no major changes but noting there might be local impacts based on future adjustments. Zulima Lundy provided an update on the Commission to Address Homelessness membership.

Timothy Kickconnell elevated the CoC Board Survey from Homebase around the fiscal and resource mapping project. Further, provided an update on CalOptima Health initiatives funding opportunities for various housing projects aimed at expanding housing options and preventing homelessness.

Board Member Comments:

- Tim Shaw asked for clarification on the HHAP Round 7 requirements related to Housing Element compliance and inquired whether the requirements apply to all cities covered by the CoC or only the specific eligible applicant cities. Tim Shaw also asked for an update on the Pro-Housing designation and noted concerns about delays that could affect available funding.
- Judson Brown provided a comment on the Pro-Housing Element status for the City of Santa Ana.

Chair Maricela Rios-Faust adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 24, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.