# ORANGE COUNTY
# CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD MEETING
## Wednesday, June 24, 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 2:02 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Secretary

Present: Judson Brown, Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala, Kelita Gardner, Nichole Gideon, Marisol Johnson, Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Nishtha Mohendra, Robert "Santa Bob" Morse, Maricela Rios-Faust, Tim Shaw, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells

Absent Excused: Jason Phillips

Absent: Andrew Crowe

Dr. Shauntina Sorrells arrived during Virtual Participation. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil arrived during Board Members Comments. Marisol Johnson arrived during Business Item 1. Judson Brown left during Business Item 4 (Presented as Item 3). Dr. Shauntina Sorrells left during Business Item 2 (Presented as Item 5). Becks Heyhoe-Khalil left during Business Item 2 (Presented as Item 5). Tim Shaw left during Business Item 2 (Presented as Item 5). Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson left during Business Item 2 (Presented as Item 5). Nishtha Mohendra left during Business Item 8.

Request for Virtual Participation

The Brown Act allows exceptions for members of legislative bodies to participate remotely under two specified circumstances: (1) "Just Cause" or (2) "Emergency Circumstances". At least a quorum of the Board must be participating in-person for the exception(s) to be voted on and enacted. Following the Call to Order, Chair, Maricela Rios-Faust referenced a request for CoC Board Member Kelita Gardner to join virtually due to "Just Cause"

Recommended Action: Allow Kelita Gardner to participate remotely for today's CoC Board Meeting

Robert "Santa Bob" Morse motioned to approve the Recommended Action to allow Kelita Gardner to participate remotely. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells seconded the motion. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust issued a voice vote. No nays, no abstentions, the motion passed.

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.

- Chair Maricela Rios-Faust shared that Shakoya Green-Long has resigned from the CoC Board.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. **Approve the CoC Board Meeting Minutes from May 27, 2026.**
2. **Receive and file the CoC Strategic Plan monthly update.**

Nishta Mohendra motioned to approve the Consent Calendar. Sandra Lozeau second the motion. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust issued a voice vote. No nays, no abstention, the motion passed.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. **Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) –** Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations, and Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Zulima Lundy presented an overview of the FY2026 CoC Program NOFO, covering the funding opportunity, project ranking, scoring, renewal and bonus funding, reallocation and the potential Homeless Management Information System expansion project. Zulima Lundy also shared updates on application technical support, compliance requirements, ongoing NOFO planning, and resources available to CoC-funded agencies throughout the application process.

Recommended Actions b:

1) Approve the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC to issue the CoC Renewal Project Application.
2) Approve the FY2026 CoC Program NOFO Scoring and Rating Criteria for Renewal Projects, including the project performance measures, thresholds and point allocations, as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc to evaluate renewal projects.

Sandra Lozeau motioned to approved Recommended Actions b. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil seconded the motion. Chair, Maricela Rios-Faust; Vice Chair, Nishtha Mohendra; and Nichole Gideon recused themselves due to conflict of interest. Secretary, Dr. Tiffany Mitchell issued a voice vote. No nays, no abstentions, the motion passed.

Recommended Actions c:

1) Approve the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC to create and issue a CoC Bonus and Reallocation Request for Proposals to solicit new Transitional Housing and Supportive Services Only projects, as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.
2) Establish a non-conflicted review panel to evaluate proposals received in response to the issued Request for Proposals.
3) Approve FY2026 CoC Bonus and Reallocation Scoring and Rating Criteria to evaluate proposals as submitted in response to the Request for Proposals.

4) Recommend the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead to apply for an expansion project outside of the RFP process and to be funded by CoC Bonus or Reallocation funding in an amount not to exceed $1,000,000.

Tim Shaw motioned to approve the Recommended Actions c. Sandra Lozeau seconded the motion. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust issued a voice vote. No Nays, Becks Heyhoe-Khalil abstained, the motion passed.

Recommended Actions d:

1) Approve the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC to create and issue a DV Bonus Request for Proposals to solicit new Transitional Housing projects, as recommended by the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc.
2) Establish a non-conflicted review panel to evaluate proposals received in response to the issued Request for Proposals.
3) Approve the FY2026 DV Bonus Scoring and Rating Criteria to evaluate proposals as submitted in response to the Request for Proposals.

Sandra Lozeau motioned to approve the Recommended Actions d. Melanie McQueen seconded the motion. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust issued a voice vote. No nays, no abstentions, the motion passed.

Public Comment:

- Aisha Khan, from Human Options, expressed support for strengthening project performance measures but noted concerns about how the proposed metrics may affect Victim Service Providers (VSPs). Further stating that the current prioritization and performance expectations may not adequately reflect the barrier faced by VSP participants, making self-sufficiency benchmarks difficult to achieve within the required timeframes. Additionally, noted that the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) prohibits VSPs from collecting certain identifying information, creating compliance requirements that may negatively affect data quality and performance reporting. Lastly, emphasizing that VPSs are committed to adapting to revised performance measures but will require time to align with any new metrics.

Board Member Comments:

- Becks Heyhoe-Khalil asked whether Supportive Services Only (SSO) funding could support a standalone outreach or Coordinated Entry System (CES) project and requested clarification on the rationale if not. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil noted this could present a funding opportunity to establish a dedicated CES for Transitional-Aged Youth (TAY).
- Nishtha Mohendra asked why certain Coordinated Entry projects would not be eligible for consideration through the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc process. Nishtha Mohendra also requested clarification on how the proposed project scoring and ranking would translate to Orange County's CoC funding allocations.
- Dr. Tiffany Mitchell suggested that the discussion could help inform future strategies for incorporating these priorities into the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) application.
- Kelita Gardner requested clarification on the Project Performance Measures presentation, asking whether the Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) performance date on slide 24 should reference February 1, 2025.
- Judson Brown asked for clarification on the membership of the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc Committee. Judson Brown expressed concern regarding the distinction between Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding, noting the significant risk to projects ranked in Tier 2 if funding is not awarded. Judson Brown asked how the

proposed scoring criteria account for projects that lack alternative funding sources and the potential impacts on households if projects are defunded. Judson Brown further suggested incorporating greater discretion into the scoring process to consider provider contingency plans and organizational capacity to sustain services in the event of funding reductions.

- Sandra Lozeau responded that the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc Committee's primary objective was to develop scoring criteria that align with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements while providing opportunities for providers to include narrative context through the Request for Proposals (RFP) process. Sandra Lozeau explained that the committee sought to minimize subjective scoring, preserve flexibility for providers serving specialized populations, and encourage project improvements without disadvantaging existing renewal projects. Sandra Lozeau noted that provider performance and continuous quality improvement remain important considerations throughout the renewal process.
- Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala shared that the CoC NOFO Ad Hoc Committee carefully considered the balance between objective performance measures and narrative responses during its discussions. Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala stated that the recommended criteria were designed to provide appropriate context for currently funded CoC agencies while maintaining a fair, transparent, and competitive evaluation process.

2. **Coordinated Entry System (CES) Update –** Timothy Kirkconnell, CoC Manager, Daniel Garcia, CES Administrator and Douglas Becht, Director, Office of Care Coordination

Due to time restrictions, Business Calendar Item 2 was moved to Item 5 on the agenda.

Timothy Kirkconnell presented an overview of the survey results related to the 2-for-1 Match Policy update request.

Douglas Becht provided an update on the Coordinated Entry System (CES) Lead procurement process, including the competitive RFP evaluation, selection process, and transition plan to ensure continuity of CES operations under the new contract.

<u>Board Members Comments:</u>

- Maricela Rios-Faust asked whether the 2-for-1 Match Policy pilot had been paused or remained active. Maricela Rios-Faust recommended aligning the pilot evaluation with the CoC Strategic Plan and referring the findings to the Policies, Procedures, and Standards (PPS) Committee to review the data, identify needed adjustments, and develop recommendations for future action. Maricela Rios-Faust concluded that the CoC Officers would work together to develop and present recommended next steps. Maricela Rios-Faust highlighted the importance of maintaining strong communication between the County of Orange and the CoC, particularly as CoC Board membership changes over time. Maricela Rios-Faust encouraged continued efforts to share historical context and provide consistent updates on CoC activities.
- Nishtha Mohendra noted that survey results indicated 14% of respondents felt the policy was not trauma-informed and emphasized the importance incorporating lived experience feedback into future policy considerations. Nishtha Mohendra acknowledged the need to act with urgency and suggested that the CoC Officers prepare recommended language and next steps to expedite consideration of resuming the pilot. Nishtha Mohendra reaffirmed Friendship Shelter's commitment to supporting a seamless transition of CES administration and expressed appreciation for the collaborative efforts among partners.

- Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala requested clarification on the survey response rate and questioned whether limited awareness of the policy may have influenced participation and survey results. Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala suggested additional outreach and communication before drawing conclusions and encouraged reviewing best practices from other Continuums of Care and local housing authorities.
- Sandra Lozeau shared that housing authority's staff were unaware of certain policy requirements and application processes, which created implementation challenges. Sandra Lozeau recommended extending the pilot for an additional six months to collect more data before making permanent policy decisions. Sandra Lozeau asked whether the pilot would continue during the review process or remain paused and emphasized the importance of addressing concerns related to trauma-informed implementation and policy clarity.
- Nichole Gideon stated that the pilot was shared with the Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC) and shared feedback was incorporated. Nichole Gideon expressed support for extending the pilot for six months to gather additional data.
- Tim Shaw noted that the item had been presented as a discussion item rather than an action item. Tim Shaw stated that the pilot is currently paused and recommended that any future policy changes be reviewed through the PPS Committee and LEAC before returning to the CoC Board. Tim Shaw emphasized the importance of ensuring future discussions and decisions are trauma-informed and supported by stakeholder input.
- Melanie McQueen supported a time-limited review period and recommended bringing a proposed course of action to the PPS Committee for consideration before returning to the CoC Board. Melanie McQueen thanked all partners involved in the transition and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve in the CES Administrator role. Melanie McQueen reaffirmed PATH's commitment to transparent communication, collaboration, and ensuring a smooth transition while continuing to improve housing outcomes for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Dr. Tiffany Mitchell emphasized the importance of improving transparency and communication regarding Coordinated Entry System (CES) processes. Dr. Tiffany Mitchell suggested providing regular updates to the CoC Board to ensure members better understand ongoing initiatives and decision-making processes.

3. **Continuum of Care Builds (CoCBuilds) NOFO** – Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Due to time restrictions, Business Calendar Item 3 was moved to Item 2 on the agenda.

Felicia Boehrigner provided an overview of the FY2026 CoCBuilds NOFO, including available funding, eligible project types, and the expedited timeline for developing a local application process. Felicia Boehringer emphasized establishing a competitive selection process to support new permanent supportive housing developments aligned with HUD priorities and community housing needs.

Recommended Actions:

b. Authorize the Orange County CoC's participation in the CoCBuilds NOFO.
c. Establish an Ad Hoc comprised of non-conflicted members to support the local competition process for the CoCBuilds NOFO.
d. Approve the issuance of a local competition process for the CoCBuilds NOFO to provide Permanent Supportive Housing units in Orange County.

Robert "Santa Bob" Morse motioned to approve the Recommended Actions. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells seconded the motion. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust issued a voice vote. No nays, no abstentions, the motion passed.

4. **Youth Homelessness NOFO for FY2024 and FY2025 –** Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination; Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, Executive Director, United to End Homelessness, Orange County United Way; Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair; Nishtha Mohendra, Vice Chair; and Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, Secretary

Due to time restrictions. Business Calendar Item 4 was moved to Item 3 on the agenda.

Chair Maricela Rios-Faust; Secretary, Dr. Tifffany Mitchell; CoC Board Member Becks Heyhoe-Khalil; and Felicia Boehringer discussed the FY2024/FY2025 Youth Homelessness NOFO, application planning, and governance. Outlined the collaborative application process, Youth Action Board (YAB) engagement, and eligible project types; and emphasized stakeholder coordination, youth engagement, and alignment with the Youth Homelessness Systems Improvement (YHSI) initiative.

Amended Recommended Action b: Authorize the Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC), to facilitate a local application process for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) funding opportunity and prepare the Orange County CoC's YHDP application in response to the Youth Homelessness NOFO for FY2024 and FY2025; and authorize the CoC Board to support Orange County United Way to apply for the Youth Homelessness Systems Improvements (YHSI) funding opportunity and submit a letter of endorsement.

Nishtha Mohendra motioned to approved Amended Recommended Action b. Dr. Shauntina Sorrells seconded the motion. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust issued a voice vote. No nays, no abstentions, the motion passed.

Board Member Comments:

- Dr. Shelby Feliciano-Sabala requested clarification regarding the two separate youth funding applications and emphasized the importance of aligning the efforts to ensure consistency and coordination.
- Dr. Tiffany Mitchell proposed amending the motion to include the CoC Board's support for Orange County United Way serving as the lead applicant for the Youth Homelessness Systems Improvement (YHSI) application.
- Maricela Rios-Faust clarified that the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) application requires CoC Board approval, while the YHSI application may be submitted independently but would benefit from formal CoC Board endorsement. Maricela Rios-Faust noted that the Board's action was to authorize the Office of Care Coordination to prepare and submit the YHDP application. Maricela Rios-Faust amended the motion to include the CoC Board's endorsement of the YHSI application and authorization for a letter of support to be submitted on behalf of the CoC.
- Becks Heyhoe-Khalil stated that the CoC Board could provide an official endorsement for the YHSI application.

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

Due to time restrictions, Business Calendar Item 5 was moved to Item 6 on the agenda.

Douglas Becht provided an update on grant expenditures, reporting that all allocated funding remains on track to be fully expended by required deadlines. Douglas Becht emphasized continued collaboration with funded partners to support timely implementation and encouraged Board members to review the presentation materials for additional program and funding details.

6. **Orange County United Way United to End Homelessness's HMIS Data Request** – Erin DeRycke, Director, Data Analytics, 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC), Orange County United Way

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

Erin DeRycke introduced the agenda item, and Jeff Dronkers, Senior Manager of Evaluation at Orange County United Way, presented a proposed data request related to the Whatever It Takes (WIT) project in partnership with CalOptima Health. The request seeks to analyze participant outcomes before and after enrollment to better understand housing stability, evaluate program effectiveness, and inform improvements to the homeless services system.

<u>Recommended Action b:</u> Approve Orange County United Way United to End Homelessness's HMIS data request to receive two exports of client-level data related to all HMIS enrollments for clients enrolled in the Whatever It Takes (WIT) project, for the reporting period of July 1, 2022 through May 31, 2026, for the first export and the reporting period of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, for the second export, to evaluate project effectiveness.

Dr. Shauntina Sorrells motioned to approve Recommended Action b. Nichole Gideon seconded the motion. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust issued a voice vote. No nays, Dr. Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Becks Heyhoe-Khalil, and Tim Shaw abstained, the motion passed.

<u>Board Member Comments:</u>

- Marisol Johnson noted that WIT providers utilize the program but do not consistently use HMIS, and asked how the proposed data request would support providers and their clients and emphasized the importance of proactively identifying any additional data collection needs to ensure successful implementation
- Becks Heyhoe-Khalil explained that the WIT Program was intentionally designed to minimize administrative burden for participating providers while still capturing meaningful program outcomes. Becks Heyhoe-Khalil expressed optimism that the evaluation would demonstrate the effectiveness of homelessness prevention efforts, including the use of flexible funding to help households remain stably housed or quickly resolve housing crises.
- Nishtha Mohendra requested an update on the previously approved data requests involving the University of California, Irvine (UCI) and Abt Global.
- Dr. Kelly Bruno Nelson stated that the evaluation will provide valuable data to better understand program outcomes and strengthen advocacy for increased funding, particularly as the CalAIM initiative continues to expand.
- Dr. Shauntina Sorrells noted that the evaluation findings could also help inform philanthropic investments and support future funding opportunities.

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

Erin DeRycke provided updates on the 2026 Housing Inventory Count (HIC), including the new client-facing feature through Bitfocus and feedback received regarding implementation. She reviewed anticipated HMIS-related costs, including system configuration, training, policy development, pilot implementation, project management, reporting updates, HMIS data requests, and agency support considerations.

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

Douglas Becht provided updates on the prevention framework, encampment resolution funding efforts, and the upcoming Same Day Solutions Fair. He emphasized the CoC's commitment to thoughtful implementation, collaboration with partners, and maintaining a clear and accessible public comment process.

Timothy Kickconnell provided updates on new HUD CoC guidance related to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Coordinated Entry System (CES) prioritization. Timothy Kickconnell highlighted key guidance considerations and encouraged CoC partners and providers to review the updates, assess potential impacts, and remain engaged in ongoing system planning and implementation efforts

Board Member Comments:

- Nichole Gideon recommended reviewing the potential impacts of the updated HUD guidance on Coordinated Entry System (CES) operations and other related system processes. Nichole Gideon suggested incorporating these considerations into discussions related to the CoC NOFO planning and implementation process.

Chair Maricela Rios-Faust adjourned the meeting at 5:01 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, July 22, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.