



COUNTY OF ORANGE
OFFICE OF CARE
COORDINATION

**Orange County Continuum of Care
(CoC) Board Special Meeting
July 30, 2026**

Public Comments

Board Member Comments

Business Calendar

Youth Homelessness Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Zulima Lundy, Director of Operations and
Timothy Kirkconnell, CoC Manager,
Office of Care Coordination

Business Calendar – Item #1

Youth Homelessness NOFO Overview

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released the Youth Homelessness NOFO for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and 2024 on June 10, 2026, making \$193 million available nationwide.

- The funding supports two initiatives:
 - Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) aimed to strengthen local youth homelessness response systems.
 - Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) which funds housing and supportive services for youth experiencing homelessness.
- Orange County CoC is eligible to apply for up to \$15 million in YHDP funding.
- On June 24, 2026, the CoC Board approved the Orange County CoC pursuing the YHDP funding opportunity and the facilitation of a local process and supported Orange County United Way with pursuing the YHSI funding opportunity.

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YHDP: Local Competition and Application Process

The Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC has facilitated the local YHDP competition process to solicit proposals from qualified organizations.

- The Office of Care Coordination released a Request for Proposals on July 1, 2026, seeking new:
 - Transitional Housing (TH) Projects
 - Supportive Services Only (SSO) Projects

To assist applicants, the Office of Care Coordination provided informational webinars, technical assistance office hours, and Question & Answer sessions.

Proposals

- Six (6) proposals were submitted by the deadline of July 14, 2026:
 - Three (3) TH Projects
 - Three (3) SSO Projects
- Total funding requested by the proposals was approximately \$7 million, which is below Orange County's maximum eligible funding.

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YHDP: Local Competition and Application Process

- At the July 22, 2026, meeting, the CoC Board approved recommended actions to maximize the amount of funding being applied for by the Orange County CoC:
 - The Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC to submit a Planning Project application in the amount of \$250,000 for a 24-month grant term.
 - The Office of Care Coordination as the Coordinated Entry System (CES) Lead to submit an SSO - Coordinated Entry Project in the amount of \$500,000 for a 24-month grant term.
 - Orange County United Way as the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead to submit an HMIS Project in the amount of \$500,000 for a 24-month grant term.
- The inclusion of the additional projects in the YHDP application will provide infrastructure investments to strengthen implementation.

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YHDP: Project Proposals Review and Recommendations

- The Office of Care Coordination established a YHDP Review Panel consisting of four (4) non-conflicted subject matter experts and two (2) Youth Action Board (YAB) members to support with the scoring and ranking of proposals.
- The YHDP Proposals were scored on a 100-point scale detailed in **Attachment A**, outlining the maximum points for each criteria and the basis for assigning points.
- The YHDP Review Panel scored each proposal independently and submitted scores to the Office of Care Coordination for review and discussion during the Review Panel Meeting, leading to the Project Priority Listing as outlined in **Attachment B**.
- The RFP Review Panel established the following YHDP Ranking Policy in support of developing the YHDP Project Priority Listing:
 1. Proposals must at minimum score 70 points to be included in the YHDP Project Priority Listing.
 2. Selected proposals would be ranked from the highest score to the lowest score.
 3. Project applications for HMIS, SSO-CE and Planning would be ranked below the selected proposals.
- A total of four (4) projects were recommended by the YHDP Review Panel to proceed, and two (2) projects were rejected.



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Orange County CoC YHDP Project Priority Listing

Project Ranking	Applicant Name	Project Name	Project Component	Total Funding Requested*	Average Score
1	Covenant House California	Covenant House California's YHDP Transitional Housing for Orange County	TH	\$1,962,694	86.8
2	Orangewood Foundation	Orange Bridge Housing Program	TH	\$2,427,747	85.7
3	Access California Services	Youth Bridge: Culturally Responsive Housing Stability and Support Services	SSO	\$2,000,000	84.8
4	Orange County United Way	WelcomeHomeOC Foster Youth Voucher Initiative	SSO	\$3,370,666	78.8
5	Orange County United Way	YHDP HMIS Expansion Project	HMIS	\$500,000	N/A
6	County of Orange	YHDP CES Expansion Project	SSO	\$500,000	N/A
7	County of Orange	YHDP Planning Project	Planning	\$250,000	N/A
			Total	\$ 11,011,107	

*Final funding amounts subject to change within approved funding priorities and maximum funding eligibility.

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Transitional Housing Projects

Covenant House California – YHDP Transitional Housing for Orange County

- Scattered-site transitional housing program that will serve 30 youth ages 18 to 24 during the grant term
- Youth will be provided with approximately 40 hours of supportive programming per week, in the form of case management, life-skills training, employment and education support, financial coaching, wellness.
- Youth will remain in the program for up to 24 months while working towards stable housing sustained through employment and earned income, family reunification or other lasting arrangements.

Orangewood Foundation – Orange Bridge Housing Program

- Program will provide 10-beds of transitional housing and will serve 24 youth during the grant term.
- Youth will receive up to 12 months in transitional housing combined with intensive support services
- Youth will meet weekly with Care Coordinator to develop and implement an Individual Housing Stability Plan and participate in life skills workshops, employment readiness activities, and connections to education, healthcare, behavioral health and community resources.

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Supportive Services Only Projects

Access California Services – Youth Bridge: Culturally Responsive Housing Stability and Support Services

- Program will serve approximately 100 youth ages 24 and under during the grant term by quickly accessing safe and stable housing.
- Program will use a community-based outreach model to identify and engage youth and provide housing navigation, case management, employment support, life skills development and connection to behavioral health.

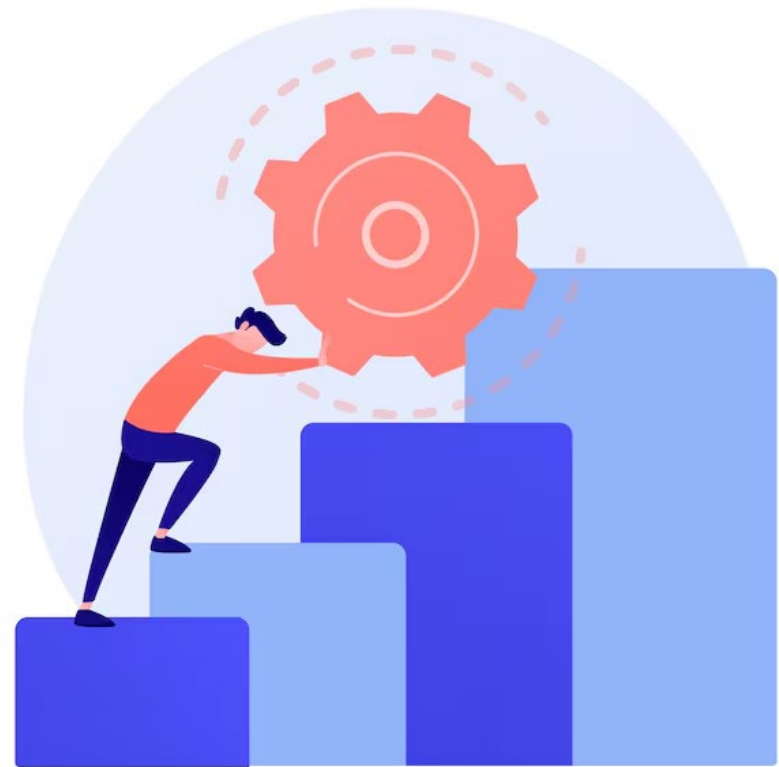
Orange County United Way – WelcomeHomeOC Foster Youth Voucher Initiative

- Program will serve 625 youth during the grant term with housing navigation in addition to connections to education, workforce development, and independent resources for up to 36 months.
- Program will work directly with landlords and property owners to expand the inventory of available rental units and reduce the time youth spend searching for housing who have been issued a housing choice voucher.

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Next Steps and Impact

- Additional details can be found in the YHDP Project Applicant Summaries (**Attachment C**) which provide an overview of each project recommended for approval.
- The summaries highlight the applicant agency, funding request, project type, project description, target household or subpopulation, and anticipated outcomes, offering a clear and transparent overview of the proposed investment.
- Furthermore, upon CoC Board Approval, the Office of Care Coordination will coordinate with the YAB to provide letters of support for the recommended proposals and will also provide a letter of support on behalf of the Orange County CoC (**Attachment D**).
- The Office of Care Coordination will work with the agencies of the selected projects to finalize the applications in e-snaps ahead of HUD's August 10, 2026, deadline.



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Recommended Actions

- a. Approve the selection of proposals submitted in response to the Request for Proposals (RFP) for Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Projects for inclusion in the Orange County Continuum of Care's (CoC) Application in response to the Youth Homelessness NOFO for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and FY 2025.
 - 1) Covenant House California's Transitional Housing project proposal called Covenant House California's YHDP Transitional Housing for Orange County for \$1,962,694, or an amount not to exceed the maximum eligible funding.
 - 2) Orangewood Foundation's Transitional Housing project proposal called Orange Bridge Housing Program for \$2,427,747, or an amount not to exceed the maximum eligible funding.
 - 3) Access California Services' Supportive Services Only project proposal called Youth Bridge: Culturally Responsive Housing Stability and Support Services for \$2,000,000, or an amount not to exceed the maximum eligible funding.
 - 4) Orange County United Way's Supportive Services Only project proposal called WelcomeHomeOC Foster Youth Voucher Initiative for \$3,370,666, or an amount not to exceed the maximum eligible funding.

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Recommended Actions

- b. Approve the YHDP Project Ranking and Tiering Policy as recommended by the YHDP Review Panel.
- c. Approve the YHDP Project Priority Listing, including the CoC Planning, Supportive Services Only - Coordinated Entry, Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and selected new project proposals, to be included in the Orange County CoC's YHDP Application for the Youth Homelessness NOFO for FY 2024 and FY 2025, as recommended by the YHDP Review Panel.
- d. Approve the Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Application to provide a Letter of Support to the YHDP Project Proposals as included in the YHDP Project Priority Listing in response to the Youth Homelessness NOFO for FY 2024 and FY 2025.

Next Special Meeting:

Friday, August 7, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

in the CAS Building Conference Center

425 West Santa Ana Blvd. Room 104/106, Santa Ana, CA 92701



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