

**ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING**

Thursday, September 18, 2025
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Location:

**The Village at 17th Street
Large Community Room
1505 17th St., Santa Ana, CA 92705**

Virtual Meeting Option*:

Zoom Meeting Link: [Click here for meeting link](#)

Join by phone: +1 669 444 9171

Webinar ID: 918 5645 3249

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

Committee Chair: Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options

Committee Members:

Jude Abusham, Student in Orange County
Brateil Aghasi, WISEPlace
Patience Biosah, Individual
Barbara Burke, Individual
Shakoya Green Long, Thomas House
Deborah Kraft, Lived Experience Advisory Committee, Orange County Family Violence Council's
(OCFVC) Homelessness Domestic Violence (DV)-Sexual Assault (SA) Task Force, Housing is a
Human Right OC (HHROC), Stronger Women United, DV Policy Advocate
Mark Lee, Radiant Futures
Sammie MarTínez, Individual
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward
Lydia Nationalesta, City of Lake Forest
Wendy Seiden, OCFVC Homelessness-DV-SA Task Force
Tianna Terry, Friendship Shelter, Individual Coordinated Entry System (CES)
Cynthia Thouvenel, Ohlone Tribe Non-Profit
Katherine Tan, Individual
Sharon Wie, Interval House

MINUTES

Present: Brateil Aghasi, Lydia Nationalesta, Maricela Rios-Faust, Mark Lee, Patience Biosah, Shakoya Green Long, Sharon Wie, Tiana Terry and Wendy Seiden

Absent Excused: Deborah Kraft, Katherine Tan and Nishtha Mohendra

Absent: Barbara Burke, Jude Abusham, Sammie MarTínez and Cynthia Thouvenel

Patience Biosah and Tianna Terry arrived during roll call. Lydia Nationalesta left during Business Calendar Item 2. Brateil Aghasi left during Business Calendar Item 3. Tianna Terry left during Business Calendar Item 3.

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.

Welcome and Introductions – Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair

Public Comments – Members of the public may address the DV Committee 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 DV Committee. Public 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 DV Committee, members of the public are to complete a Request to Address the Committee form prior to the beginning of each agenda item and submit it to Continuum of Care (CoC) staff. Staff will call your name in the order received. Members of the public 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 meeting will be distributed to the DV Committee members, and all comments will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include “Domestic Violence Committee Meeting Comment” in the email subject line.

DV Committee Member Comments – Members of the DV Committee may provide comments on matters not appearing on the agenda so long as the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the DV Committee. Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five members wishing to speak, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve the DV Committee Meeting Minutes from February 18, 2025.
2. Approve the DV Committee Meeting Minutes from May 21, 2025.

Mark Lee motioned to approve Items 1 and 2 on the Consent Calendar; Shakoya Green Long seconded the motion. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust issued a roll call vote. Brateil Aghasi voted yes, Patience Biosah, Shakoya Green Long, Mark Lee, Lydia Nationalesta, Maricela Rios-Faust, Wendy Seiden, Sharon Wie, and Tianna Terry voted yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Discussion:

- Wendy Seiden asked why presenter/staff responses are not included in the meeting minutes.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. PATH Rapid Rehousing Pilot Program: CES for Survivors – Daniel Garcia, CES Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Daniel Garcia presented on the PATH Rapid Rehousing Pilot Program, a time limited program which made nine opportunities for PATH's rapid rehousing program available directly to survivors. PATH's pilot program has enrolled two households, with five households declining the opportunity and two households not responding to the match opportunities. Daniel Garcia provided background on Survivor CES and the number of housing opportunities that are available directly to survivors outside of the Community Queue and discussed the next steps to collaborate with other providers to make additional opportunities directly available to survivors. Marisol Lara from PATH shared a success story of a survivor housed through the pilot program.

Public Comments:

- Marisol Lara shared that the households that declined had declined as they were not a good fit for rapid rehousing due to concerns around increasing income.

Committee Discussion:

- Wendy Seiden asked if the five denials were tracked to provide insight on why the households denied the opportunity and inquired about other types of housing opportunities which could be made available, such as permanent supportive housing.
- Chair Maricela Rios-Faust asked what attempts were made to connect with the two households that were unresponsive, and if transitional housing opportunities could be made available directly to survivors. Maricela Rios-Faust highlighted that the pilot program had doubled the designated housing opportunities made available for survivors.
- Tianna Terry highlighted the importance of victim service providers and housing providers collaborating and emphasized the need for permanent supportive housing (PSH) opportunities for survivor households, highlighting the recent partnership between WISEPlace and Friendship Shelter which allowed a PSH opportunity to be offered directly to survivors.
- Sharon Wie agreed that additional PSH opportunities are needed and discussed the difficulty that survivors face when they continue to move between transitional housing while waiting for long-term permanent housing opportunities.
- Brateil Aghasi discussed WISEPlace receiving 15 set-aside vouchers from the City of Santa Ana for survivors, the positive impact of removing chronicity requirements for those vouchers and offered assistance to anyone needing support for conversations surrounding advocacy. Brateil Aghasi shared barriers when survivors are prioritized in the same way as other populations, with restrictions such as city ties and chronicity having a large impact on those fleeing.
- Mark Lee asked if the WISEPlace opportunities had been matched through CES or if they were matched directly through a set-aside opportunity.

2. State and Local Goals to Address Homelessness Amongst Survivors – Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair and Felicia Boehringer, Interim CoC Manager, Office of Care ed

Felicia Boehringer provided background on the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) goals to prevent and end homelessness among domestic violence survivors and their children and among unaccompanied women in California, as listed within Senate Bill (SB) 914 Homeless Equity for Left Behind Populations (HELP) Act Statute, and reviewed connections between Cal ICH goals and the CoC Strategic Plan. Felicia Boehringer revisited the DV Committee Vision and offered consideration on the desired areas of focus for the Committee. Maricela Rios-Faust emphasized the connection between the DV Committee Vision areas of focus, the Cal ICH, and CoC Strategic Plan goals. Maricela Rios-Faust discussed how improvements made with a focus on a specific sub-population can improve overall outcomes. Felicia Boehringer reviewed common barriers for survivors identified by Cal ICH and opened a discussion on current barriers and trends observed for survivors experiencing homelessness within the Orange County CoC.

Committee Discussion:

- Mark Lee provided feedback on the need for improvements with data collection for survivors, as many survivors are working with traditional shelter/housing providers and not victim service providers, and unintentional get left out of data. Mark Lee discussed the importance of including these households in survivor data to ensure the needs of all survivors are being met and asked if WISEPlace is the only provider in Orange County which serves unaccompanied women exclusively.
- Tianna Terry discussed hearing from a high number of access points about a desire to help survivors but a general lack of knowledge amongst their staff on how to best serve households, emphasizing the need to work with access points on training for survivor safety, trauma informed care, and Survivor CES. Tianna Terry asked about the Cal ICH identified barrier mentioning assessment tools not accounting for the trauma and dangers faced by survivors.
- Lydia Nationalesta shared Waymakers' Domestic Violence Advocate training opportunity.
- Maricela Rios-Faust emphasized system collaboration as an important aspect of system improvement, shared barriers to employment for survivors, discussed the importance of embedding lived experience and thorough feedback mechanisms into the system, and asked if lived experience integration would be considered when future proposals are reviewed.
- Wendy Seiden shared concerns with access/safety of shelters and discussed the experience of the County of Orange's Yale Navigation Center emergency shelter opening. Wendy Seiden asked about opportunities for additional collaboration/feedback/training with victim service providers and the County of Orange on shelters and highlighted the need for everyone to be on the same page with pushing opportunities for collaboration forward.
- Brateil Aghasi discussed the importance of designing spaces specific to survivors, with SafePlace as an example, as typical shelters still have co-ed shared spaces which can be retraumatize survivors.
- Sharon Wie highlighted a need for more resources and opportunities for survivors across the board.

3. CoC Updates – Jasmin Miranda, Interim CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

Jasmin Miranda shared a virtual discussion being hosted by the Orange County Family Violence Council's (OCFVC) Homelessness Domestic Violence (DV)-Sexual Assault (SA) Task Force with Judge Baytieh to learn about CARE Court and provided an update on the Lived Experience Compensation Framework. Jasmin Miranda discussed federal news updates, including recent executive orders and the importance of focusing on reliable sources of information, the anticipated 2025 CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity, and 2026 Point in Time Count dates. Jasmin Miranda announced the Same Day Solutions Fair to be held on September 25, 2025, at the HUB Resource Center, reviewed upcoming CoC meetings, and issued a reminder on CoC general membership applications and employment opportunities.

Adjournment to: Regular meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. at The Village at 17th Street Large Community Room (1505 17th St, Santa Ana, CA 92705).