

**ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
Wednesday, November 18, 2020
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

Webinar:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/694403981>

Dial by Phone:
+1 (312) 757-3121

Access Code:
694-403-981

AGENDA

Board Member Names

Jeanne Awrey, OC Dept. of Education [Secretary]
Matt Bates, City Net
Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana
Natalie Bui, Veteran Affairs CRRC
Donald Dermit, The Rock Church
Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way
Tim Houchen, Hope4Restoration
Patti Long, Mercy House

Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter
Albert Ramirez, City of Anaheim
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options
Soledad Rivera, Families Together of OC
George Searcy, Jamboree Housing [Chair]
Tim Shaw, Individual [Vice-Chair]
Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Health Care Agency

Call to Order – George Searcy, Chair

Board Member Roll Call – Jocelyn Gaspar, Continuum of Care Specialist

Public Comments: Members of the public may address the Continuum of Care (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 CoC Board member discussion. Comments will be limited to three minutes. If there are more than five public speakers, this time will be reduced to two minutes.

In order to address the CoC Board, members of the public are to enter their name and agenda item number in the GoToMeeting chat box to be placed in a queue. CoC Board staff will call your name in the order listed in the chat box.

CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters are approved by one motion unless pulled by a Board Member for discussion or separate action. The CoC Board requests that only pertinent information be discussed during this time.

- 1. Approve Continuum of Care Board Meeting Minutes from October 28, 2020.**

BUSINESS CALENDAR

- 1. Director of Care Coordination Update** – Jason Austin, Office of Care Coordination Director
- 2. Continuum of Care Manager Update** – Zulima Lundy, Continuum of Care Manager
- 3. New Continuum of Care Board Members Welcome and Introductions** – George Searcy, Chair
 - Tim Houchen, seat representing persons experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless
 - Christina Weckerly-Ramirez, at-large seat prioritizing Behavioral Health expertise

- c. Soledad Rivera, at-large seat prioritizing Health Care expertise
- 4. Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee Recommendations – Tim Shaw, Chair**
 - a. Establish a Lived Experience Advisory Committee to be chaired by Tim Houchen.
- 5. Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Capital Request for Proposals (RFP) Funding Recommendations – Zulima Lundy, Continuum of Care Manager**
 - a. Approve the HHAP Capital RFP funding recommendations to the following agencies as recommended by the RFP Evaluation Panel in collaboration with the Orange County Health Care Agency
 - i. Covenant House California - \$650,000 in HHAP capital funding for the development of an emergency shelter for transitional aged youth
 - ii. City of Costa Mesa - \$2,529,126 in HHAP capital funding for the development of permanent emergency shelter serving individuals experiencing homelessness in the Central Service Planning Area
- 6. Continuum of Care Board Officer Elections – George Searcy, Chair**
 - a. Hold elections for the CoC Board Officer positions including Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary

Next Meeting: December 17, 2020

ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
Wednesday, October 28, 2020
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

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MINUTES

Board Member Names

Jeanne Awrey, OC Dept. of Education [Secretary]
Matt Bates, City Net
Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana
Natalie Bui, Veteran Affairs CRRC
Donald Dermit, The Rock Church
Curtis Gamble, Hope Lifted
Vacant
Vacant

Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way
Patti Long, Mercy House
Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter
Albert Ramirez, City of Anaheim
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options
George Searcy, Jamboree Housing [Chair]
Tim Shaw, Individual [Vice-Chair]

Call to Order – George Searcy, Chair

Chair George Searcy called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Jocelyn Gaspar, Continuum of Care Specialist

Present: Matt Bates, Judson Brown, Donald Dermit, Curtis Gamble, Becks Heyhoe, Dawn Price, Patti Long, Albert Ramirez, Maricela Rios-Faust, George Searcy and Tim Shaw.

Absent Excused: Jeanne Awrey and Natalie Bui.

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- Pat Davis congratulated the nominated CoC Board candidates and commented on the County of Orange Standards of Care for Emergency Shelters.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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1. Approve Continuum of Care Board Meeting Minutes from September 23, 2020.

Chair George Searcy pulled the CoC Board Meeting Minutes from September 23, 2020, for discussion. Dawn Price requested Agenda Item 5 in the meeting minutes be updated to include her CoC Board member comment.

Vice Chair Tim Shaw motioned to approve the recommendation. Patti Long seconded the recommendation. The recommendation passed by unanimous consent.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. Director of Care Coordination Update – Jason Austin, Director

- a. Jason Austin announced new staff updates for the Office of Care Coordination.
 - i. New staff includes Doug Becht, Director of Programs; Sara Jones, Shelter Administrator; Andrew Hong, ADA & Compliance Specialist; Rocio Palafox, Grievance & Appeals Specialist; and Mayra Vargas, Coordinated Entry System Specialist.
 - ii. Promoted staff includes Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager; Karen Betances, Shelter Manager; and Natalie Dempster, Data Integration Manager.
 - iii. Pending or open positions include Care Coordination Manager and CoC Administrator

2. Continuum of Care Manager Update – Zulima Lundy, Continuum of Care Manager

- a. Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee
The PPS Committee held its inaugural meeting on October 19, 2020. The PPS Committee focused on establishing a Committee Charter and evaluating a proposed HMIS User License Fee Structure Policy. The PPS Committee will be meeting every second Tuesday of the month at 3:30 p.m.
- b. Longitudinal system Analysis (LSA)
The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is combining the 2019 and 2020 data collection process in an effort to simplify the process for the CoCs. The LSA will be submitted December 31, 2020, and will be presented to the CoC Board during the January 2021 meeting.
- c. Racial Equity Analysis
The Office of Care Coordination is in preliminary discussions with a consultant/researcher on the proposed framework for a Racial Equity Analysis. A proposed Scope of Work and feedback is pending from the potential consultant/researcher.
- d. 2021 Point in Time Count
The 2021 Point in Time Count Advisory Committee held its first meeting. Guidance on the 2021 Point in Time Count is pending from HUD, specific to COVID-19 considerations.
- e. COVID-19 Homeless Response Funding
The COVID-19 Homeless Response Funding for the Orange County CoC has served 84 individuals and 106 family households. The funding must be expended by June 30, 2022. To date \$950,000 has been spent.
- f. Homekey Projects
Two of the County of Orange's Homekey project submissions have been awarded by the State. Approximately \$23.1 million has been awarded for both the Tahiti Motel and the Stanton Inn and Suites. These two projects will create a total of 132 affordable housing homes for people experiencing homelessness who have been impacted by COVID-19 in Orange County.
- g. Request for Proposals (RFP) Updates
The Office of Care Coordination anticipates bringing funding recommendations for the Capital Funding for Homeless Service Projects RFP to the CoC Board during the November 2020 meeting. The COVID-19 Homelessness and Prevention Response RFP closed on October 7, 2020, and review is underway. The Coordinated Entry System for Individuals RFP bid started on October 14, 2020 and will end November 10, 2020.
- h. Funding Updates

The Federal Emergency Solutions Grant Program, Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act (ESG-CV) Round 1 funding allocated to the County of Orange will be utilized for the Cold Weather Shelter in Santa Ana from January to April 2021. The Federal ESG-CV Round 2 allocated to the County of Orange will be utilized for the Yale Navigation Center operations and Project Toolbelt expansion. The Notice of Funding Availability released by the State for ESG-CV Round 1 and 2 funding prioritizes assisting people experiencing homelessness and has a limited opportunity for homeless prevention assistance. Funding commitments to date includes Homekey Projects operations funding, COVID-19 Positive Non-Congregate Shelter, the Family Solutions Collaborative and COVID-19 Homelessness and Prevention Response RFP.

Public Comments:

- Lulu Hammad shared a question for the CoC Board and Office of Care Coordination staff.
- Elizabeth Andrade commented on the changes in Homeless Prevention funding, on sharing changes in funding to project applicants and urged on developing a plan for on evictions once evictions moratoriums are lifted.
- David Gillanders commented on the hours spent from staff writing an RFP response for Homeless Prevention, stressed the importance of communication to project applicants and advocated for the need for Homeless Prevention.

The Office of Care Coordination Recognizes that the COVID-19 Homelessness and Prevention Response RFP was released proactively with a greater amount allocated for Homeless Prevention, but given the State's feedback, the amount for Homeless Prevention has been reduced. Possible options for funding Homeless Prevention include funding left from Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 1 and future funding opportunities from the State of California.

3. Presentations in recognition of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month – Zulima Lundy, Continuum of Care Manager

- a. Maricela Rios-Faust, Chief Executive Office and Sara Behmerwohld, Legal Advocacy Manager, Human Options presented on the intersection of domestic violence, homelessness, the impacts of COVID-19, keys to supporting survivors of domestic violence and policy recommendations.
- b. Sharon Wie, Director of Programs, Interval House presented on the importance of addressing DV and the purpose, implementation and progress of the Domestic Violence Bonus Project awarded through the FY 2019 CoC Program Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).

4. FY2020 CoC NOFA Ad Hoc Recommendations – Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options

Maricela Rios-Faust, a member of the FY2020 CoC NOFA Ad Hoc, shared details about the process and background on the recommended actions related to Project Performance Thresholds and Point Allocations being presented to the CoC Board. Zulima Lundy noted that HUD has not released guidelines or updates on the FY2020 NOFA as such the recommended action positions the Orange County CoC to appropriately respond should a FY2020 NOFA be released.

Recommended Action:

- a. Approve the FY 2020 CoC NOFA recommendations related to Project Performance Thresholds and Point allocation for Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing Projects.
- b. Recommend the project performance data reviewed by the Data and Performance Management Committee in February and April 2020 for rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing projects in the FY 2020 CoC NOFA submission.

Dawn Price motioned to approve the FY2020 CoC Ad Hoc recommendations. Donald Dermit seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Judson Brown commented on the utilization of funds and appropriate spenddowns. Zulima Lundy noted that the utilization of funds and appropriate spenddown would be discussed when reviewing the scoring rubric for the FY2020 CoC NOFA.

5. CoC Board Election Results – Zulima Lundy, Continuum of Care Manager

Zulima Lundy provided an overview of the process, timeline and communication shared for the CoC Board Election and presented the results from the election.

Recommended Action:

- a. Ratify the results from the 2020 CoC Board elections to appoint the following candidates to the seats available during the election:
 - i. Judson Brown for the Public Housing Agency Representative seat
 - ii. Tim Houchen for the persons experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless seat
 - iii. Maricela Rios-Faust for Domestic Violence Representative seat
 - iv. Christina Weckerly-Ramirez for the at-large seat prioritizing Behavior Health background and expertise
 - v. Donald Dermit for the at-large seat prioritizing Faith Based Representation
 - vi. Soledad Rivera for the at-large seat prioritizing Health Care background and expertise
 - vii. Matt Bates and Patti Long for the at-large seats prioritizing expertise on homeless services and/or representation of homeless service providers

Chair George Searcy shared his support for the process and the results of the election.

Vice Chair Tim Shaw motioned to approve the recommended action. Dawn Price seconded the recommended action. The motion passed. Judson Brown, Maricela Rios-Faust, Donald Dermit, Matt Bates and Patti Long abstained from voting.

Meeting adjourned: 3:43 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 18, 2020

Date: November 18, 2020

Subject: Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee Recommendation

Recommendations:

- a. Establish a Lived Experience Advisory Committee to be chaired by Tim Houchen

Background:

On November 10, 2020, the Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee took action to create a Lived Experience Advisory Committee for the Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC). The Lived Experience Advisory Committee will function as an advisory group to the Orange County CoC Board consisting of members with current or past experience of homelessness. The Advisory Committee members will use this platform provide feedback on the System of Care and to make recommendations for improvement.

The recommendation to establish a Lived Experience Advisory Committee was put forward by the PPS Chair, Tim Shaw. The Lived Experience Advisory Committee will be chaired by the CoC Board member that represents a seat for lived experience or formerly homeless. The current member to hold the seat is Tim Houchen. Additional membership shall be comprised of members with current or past experience of homelessness with support from the Office of Care Coordination staff. The Office of Care Coordination staff will work with the Lived Experience Advisory Committee Chair on creating a Governance Charter for the committee.

Analysis:

By creating a Lived Experience Advisory Committee, the CoC and the CoC Board will gain community-level feedback from individuals with lived experience on the CoC and the community's efforts to end homelessness in Orange County. The CoC Board hopes to create a working partnership with our lived experience community members, gather feedback on policy development and gather input on improving the quality and types of services provided.

The PPS Committee members recommended identifying ways to encourage participation and encourage ongoing engagement of individuals with lived experience.

Date: November 18, 2020

Subject: Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Capital Request for Proposals (RFP) Funding

Recommended Action:

- a. Approve the HHAP Capital RFP funding recommendations to the following agencies as recommended by the RFP Evaluation Panel in collaboration with the OC Health Care Agency
 - a. Covenant House California - \$650,000 in HHAP capital funding for the development of an emergency shelter for transitional aged youth
 - b. City of Costa Mesa - \$2,529,126 in HHAP capital funding for the development of a permanent emergency shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness in the Central Service Planning Area.

Background:

The Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program was established by the State of California to provide Continuums of Care (CoC) and local governments with block grant funds to support regional coordination and build local capacity to address homelessness in their community. Eligible activities include emergency services, rental assistance, rapid rehousing, operating subsidies, landlord incentives, capital projects for delivery of permanent housing, navigation centers and emergency shelters, along with a required eight percent set-aside for youth specific programming.

The Orange County CoC was allocated \$8,081,115 with a requirement for an eight percent set-aside for youth-specific programming and is allowed up to seven percent for administrative costs. For HHAP funding to support the development of new navigation centers and emergency shelters, the Orange County CoC had to demonstrate a need to the State for these program types. To meet the requirement, the Orange County CoC provided the number of available emergency shelter beds in the jurisdiction, vacancy rate in summer and winter months, the percentage of exits from emergency shelters to permanent housing solutions, and outlined a coordinated exit strategy from the shelter system.

On April 29, 2020, the Orange County CoC Board approved the release of a Request For Proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals to be funded through HHAP program. The Orange County CoC and the County of Orange's goal is to create a balanced System of Care by ensuring that persons experiencing homelessness have access to services, temporary housing options that are focused on permanent housing, and permanent housing resources that are robust. The HHAP RFP for Capital Projects process presented to the Orange County CoC Board on June 24, 2020, aimed to increase the number of available beds and services for persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness by creating new or expanding emergency shelters and navigation centers. These projects were to:

- Filled gaps in services within the current system
- Have a high impact in moving people towards or into permanent housing
- Incorporate evidence-based practices, such as but not limited to, trauma-informed care, housing first, harm reduction, critical time intervention and motivational interviewing

On DATE an update to the HHAP RFP was issued expand eligible capital projects to the development of affordable housing and permanent supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness. This change to the RFP was in alignment with the eligible activities and intended purpose of HHAP funding to support the delivery of permanent housing and innovative housing solutions (such as hotel and motel conversions).

There were three respondents to the RFP. An evaluation panel consisting of two HCA representatives and three Orange County CoC Board representatives evaluated the proposals and recommended award of agreements to the City of Costa Mesa and Covenant House California.

Analysis:

Approval of HHAP funding recommendations by the Orange County CoC Board to Covenant House California in the amount of \$650,000 will support the development of emergency shelter program located at 632 N. East Street in the City of Anaheim, California 92805. The emergency shelter will feature 25 beds for transitional-age youth (ages 18 to 24) experiencing homelessness. Capital improvements are expected to be completed by March 2021 and emergency shelter operations will begin by June 2021. Additionally, approval of the HHAP funding to Covenant House support's the Orange County CoC Board's commitment to providing services and programs to all subpopulations experiencing homelessness and compliment the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funding award.

Approval of HHAP Funding recommendations by the Orange County CoC Board to the City of Costa Mesa will support the development of a permanent emergency shelter program located at 3175 Airway Avenue in the City of Costa Mesa, California, 92626. The emergency shelter will feature a total of 72 beds, 69 beds for individuals experiencing homelessness and three beds available for quarantine/isolation. The emergency shelter will prioritize referrals from the Central Service Planning Area, including County agencies and contracted providers. Capital improvements are expected to be completed by January 2021 and emergency shelter operations will begin by April 2021.

Approval of the HHAP funding recommendation to Covenant House California and City of Costa Mesa will expand emergency shelter capacity. Additionally, the Orange County CoC will gain vital infrastructure for needed emergency shelter beds for individuals and transitional age youth experiencing homelessness.