

**ORANGE COUNTY  
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
Wednesday, August 26, 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**

# 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 2:03 p.m.

### Board Member Roll Call – Jocelyn Gaspar, CoC Specialist

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

Absent Excused: Jeanne Awrey

**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.

- o Callie Rutter commented on one of the Project Roomkey non-congregate shelters and on the CoC Board nomination and selection process.

### **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 July 22, 2020 and August 5, 2020.**

Becks Heyhoe motioned to approve the Consent Calendar. Mariela Rios-Faust seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

## **BUSINESS CALENDAR**

### **1. Update from the Office of Care Coordination– Jason Austin, Director of Care Coordination**

Jason Austin thanked the CoC Board and all providers involved in County of Orange's Homelessness COVID-19 Response System.

Jason Austin provided an update on Project Toolbelt. Project Toolbelt explores interim and permanent housing options for Project Roomkey program participants. The service providers for Project Toolbelt include City Net, Pathways of Hope, Mercy House and Friendship Shelter. As of August 26, 2020, 648 assessments have been completed and 46 program participants have found an interim or permanent housing option to transition into.

Jason Austin provided an update on Project Homekey. Project Homekey is the next phase in the State of California's response to protect people experiencing homelessness who are at high-risk for serious illness and are impacted by COVID-19. The Office of Care Coordination in collaboration with OC Community resources has submitted the Project Homekey applications to the State of California.

### **2. Continuum of Care Manager Update – Zulima Lundy, Care Coordination Manager**

#### Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

On August 5, 2020, the FY2020 Grant Inventory Worksheets (GIW) were posted for review by the CoC and project applicants. The release of the GIW marks the beginning of the NOFA process. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) noted that it is currently exploring alternative approaches to distributing FY 2020 CoC Program funds, as opposed to typical funding cycle. The Office of Care Coordination is currently reviewing the local NOFA process utilized in FY2019 to begin preparing for the FY2020 process regardless of the direction HUD chooses.

#### Racial Equity Analysis

The Office of Care Coordination in collaboration with the CoC Board Chair and Vice Chair are working to identify potential consultants to conduct a Racial Equity Analysis for the Orange County CoC. The Office of Care Coordination anticipates a detailed timeline plan at a future CoC Board Meeting.

#### COC COVID-19 Homeless Response Funding

The Orange County CoC expanded the opportunity to provide non-congregate shelter to individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Through COVID-19 Homelessness Response funding received from the State, the Orange County CoC made funding available to all homeless service providers and cities operating emergency shelters to provide alternative shelter placements in 30-day intervals. To date, the Orange County CoC has been able to support 46 unsheltered families (151 persons total, including 62 adults and 89 children) and 126 individual at high risk for severe COVID-19 illness. This resource remains available to all homeless service providers who need to provide alternative shelter to individuals and families.

#### COVID-19 Homeless Response Request for Proposals (RFP)

The State Housing and Community Development provided guidance regarding the planned utilization of the Emergency Solutions Grant COVID-19 Round 2 (ESG-CV2) funding. The State's guidance included prioritizing the majority of the funding for emergency shelter and rapid rehousing activities. Given the State guidance, the Office of Care Coordination had to delay the issuance of the RFP for the COVID-19 Homeless Response funding to reflect the proposed funding allocation of eligible activities. The RFP is expected to be posted early next week.

#### Public Comments

- o Callie Rutter commented on the shelter preference on the COVID-19 Homelessness Response RFP.

**3. Opposition to Changes in Equal Access Rules for Homelessness Resources Letter – Zulima Lundy, Care Coordination Manager**

Recommended Action

- a. Approve the Orange County CoC to sign a joint letter in Opposition to Changes in Equal Access Rules for Homelessness Resources, which opposes the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) proposed rule entitled Making Admission or Placement Determinations Based on Sex in Facilities Under Community Planning and Development Housing Programs.

Vice Chair Tim Shaw motioned to approve the recommended action. Becks Heyhoe seconded the recommended action. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Public Comment:

- o Pat Davis thanked the CoC Board for the approval of this letter.

**4. CoC Board Nomination Process Overview and Recommendation – Zulima Lundy, Care Coordination Manager**

Amended Action

- a. Prioritize the following areas of expertise/experience for the five (5) At-Large Seats being elected the Orange County CoC Board, in order to ensure a well-balanced perspective from multiple sectors to best lead the response to homelessness in Orange County.
  - i. One seat for Behavioral Health background and expertise
  - ii. One seat for Faith Based Representation
  - iii. One seat for Health Care background and expertise
  - iv. Two seats for expertise on homeless services / representation of homeless service providers
- b. Extend the CoC Board Nomination deadline for an additional week to allow more time for outreach given the new prioritized At-Large Seats.

Maricela Rios-Faust motioned to approve the amended motion. Natalie Bui seconded the amended motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Public Comment:

- o Callie Rutter commented on the CoC Board nomination process and disagrees with the deadline extension.

**5. Operational Funding for Project Homekey Applications Overview and Recommendations – Zulima Lundy, Care Coordination Manager**

- a. Zulima Lundy shared an overview of Project Homekey (Reference page 13 of the August 26, 2020, CoC Board agenda packet)
- b. Amended Action  
Authorize the utilization of Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Round 2 funding allocated to the Orange County CoC to support the operating subsidies of Project Homekey proposals as submitted to the State, pending award, and request the Orange County Housing Authority match ten (10) mainstream vouchers to the three Homekey Projects.

Donald Dermit motioned to approve the amended recommendation. Dawn Price seconded the amended recommendation. Chair George Searcy abstained from voting. The amended recommendation passed.

- c. Amended Action  
Support the County of Orange's utilization of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding as approved by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Stimulus (CARES) Act to support the ongoing operations of Project Homekey as submitted to the State, pending award, and request the interim shelters be accessible to all service planning areas.

Judson Brown motioned to approve the amended recommendation. Matt Bates seconded the amended recommendation. Chair George Searcy abstained from voting. The amended recommendation passed.

Public Comments:

- o Callie Rutter spoke in favor of the 5A amended action.
- o Susan Price from the City of Costa Mesa spoke on action 5B and recommended that access to the interim shelters be based on the 2019 Point in Time data.
- o David Duran spoke on action 5B and supports the recommendation but expressed concern on allocating funding by Service Planning Area

**6. Marching Home to End Homelessness Update** – Zulima Lundy, Care Coordination Manager

- a. The agenda item was moved to the September 23, 2020, CoC Board meeting.

**7. 2021 Point in Time Update** – Zulima Lundy, Care Coordination Manager

- a. The agenda item was moved to the September 23, 2020, CoC Board meeting.

**8. Presentation by Curtis Gamble** – Curtis Gamble, Hope Lifted

- a. Presentation by Curtis Gamble on the Proposal List (Reference page 16 of the August 26, 2020, CoC Board agenda packet)

**Meeting Adjourned:** 4:02 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** September 23, 2020