

**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

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
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

Chair George Searcy called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

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

Present: Jeanne Awrey, Matt Bates, Judson Brown, Natalie Bui, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Tim Houchen, Patti Long, Dawn Price, Albert Ramirez, Maricela Rios-Faust, Soledad Rivera, George Searcy, Tim Shaw and Christina Weckerly-Ramirez

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.

- Callie Rutter commented on the need for more representation from people with lived experience in the CoC Board membership.
- Pat Davis spoke in support of recommended actions to be considered by the CoC Board, including the recommendation for establishing a Lived Experience Advisory Committee, and congratulated Tim Houchen on his new role serving the CoC Board and representing persons with lived experience.

- David Duran congratulated Tim Houchen as the new CoC Board member representing persons with lived experience and commented on shelters' compliance with the County of Orange Standards of Care.

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.

Matt Bates motioned to approve the Consent Calendar. Maricela Rios-Faust seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. Director of Care Coordination Update – Doug Becht, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination

a. Project Roomkey

The Office of Care Coordination (OCC) has ramped down the operations of Project Roomkey. The OCC continues to provide Project Roomkey to individuals who are sick or symptomatic for COVID-19. Emergency shelter operators, hospitals, law enforcement and County contracted street outreach can continue to refer individuals experiencing homelessness who are sick or symptomatic with COVID-19 illness through the same referral line that was established. For any questions regarding access to this resource, please email carecoordination@ochca.com.

b. Project Homekey

The County of Orange (County) has finalized the Standard Agreement with Jamboree Housing Corporation (Jamboree Housing) for the operations of the Homekey Program at the Stanton Inn & Suites and the Tahiti Motel. The County will be working with Illumination Foundation to transition the operations of the Stanton Inn & Suites site from Project Roomkey to Jamboree Housing and American Family House as Homekey programs effective November 25, 2020. The target population for the Homekey Program is individuals and couples who are experiencing homelessness and have underlying medical conditions and/or are age 65 or older. Referrals for the Homekey Program will be made through the Coordinated Entry System.

c. Yale Navigation Center

On November 17, 2020, the Board of Supervisors approved the contract with People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) to operate the Yale Navigation Center. The Yale Navigation Center will provide shelter and supportive services for up to 425 individuals, including couples experiencing homelessness in the Central Service Planning Area. The shelter team within the OCC will be working with the Midnight Mission on a phased transition plan for Courtyard Transitional Center participants.

d. System Mapping Survey

The Commission to End Homelessness and the OCC are leading a collaborative effort to map the Homeless Services System across the county to better understand the resources/services available, build partnerships and utilize the information to better serve those experiencing homelessness. The OCC will work with Housing for Health OC, Mind OC and 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC) on data analysis and will be looking for participation from services providers across the county in completing the System mapping Survey. The survey will be distributed in December and initial findings/analysis will be presented at the February 2021 Commission to End Homelessness meeting.

e. Public Comments:

- Callie Rutter advocated for more funding opportunities for permanent housing.
- Nikki Buckstead thanked Doug Becht for the Project Roomkey update for individuals and shared an update on the COVID-19 alternative shelter placement efforts of the Family Solutions Collaborative that includes serving 12 households for a total of 50 persons.
- David Duran recommended the CoC Board communicate with the Commission to End Homelessness and the OC Housing Finance Trust on Housing First.

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

- a. CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)
The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has not provided an update on the CoC NOFA. There is current legislation being considered by Congress.
- b. Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 2
The California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council released the NOFA for HHAP Round 2 on November 13, 2020. The Application is expected to be released soon and due no later than January 29, 2021. The HHAP Round 2 allocated to the Orange County CoC will support the Homekey Program Operations per prior approved CoC Board action.
- c. COVID-19 Homelessness Response Funding
Expenditures to date will be paid with Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding through December 2020. Letter of Agreements for the provision of Alternative Shelter Placement will continue to be an available resource to the Continuum of Care Providers. Funding must be fully expended by June 30, 2022.
- d. Request for Proposals (RFP) Update
The COVID-19 Homelessness and Prevention Response RFP review is underway. Applicants will be notified when funding recommendations are being considered by the CoC Board. The Coordinated Entry System (CES) for Individuals RFP has closed and review is underway.
- e. Racial Equity Update
The OCC has received feedback on the proposed Scope of Work. The assessment will require HMIS data to be provided, therefore, a recommendation for HMIS data release is forthcoming.
- f. 2021 Point in Time Count
HUD released guidance on how to safely conduct the unsheltered count during the COVID-19 pandemic. HUD detailed data collection considerations, including:
 1. Exception allowance to some or all the count requirements
 2. Methodology changes to maximize safety2-1-1 Orange County has started communicating the process and timeline with shelter providers for the sheltered count.
- g. CES for Individuals Migration
211OC and BitFocus are working on the last phase of the CES for Individuals migration into HMIS. The migration will take place in mid to late December. CES for Individuals is expected to be live in HMIS by January 2021. The CES team will be communicating the timelines and deadlines to all CES Partners via email. There will be a two week pause in data entry and updates during the migration to avoid duplication information. CES functions will continue using the latest Prioritization List during the two-week pause. Once migration is completed, new assessments will be entered into CES through HMIS.
- h. Proposed HMIS User License Fees Structure Policy
The Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee had an additional discussion on the proposed HMIS User License Fee Structure Policy. The deadline for feedback on the proposed policy was extended to end of day on November 25, 2020. The final proposal will be presented at PPS Committee in December 2020. Any questions or feedback can be directed to the HMIS Help Desk or carecoordination@ochca.com.
- i. Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week
The week of November 15-22, 2020 is Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. The OCC thanked all homeless providers, street outreach staff, case managers and all Executive Directors for all their hard work and commitment to ending homelessness.

3. New Continuum of Care Board Members Welcome and Introductions – George Searcy, Chair

- a. Tim Houchen representing a seat for persons experiencing homelessness or formerly homeless shared an introduction about himself.
- b. Christina Weckerly-Ramirez representing an at-large seat prioritizing Behavioral Health expertise shared an introduction about herself.
- c. Soledad Rivera representing an at-large seat prioritizing Health Care expertise shared an introduction about herself.

4. Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee Recommendations – Tim Shaw, Chair

- a. Tim Shaw, Chair of the PPS Committee, provided an overview of the proposed Lived Experience Advisory Committee and its goals. The Advisory Committee will function as an advisory group to the CoC Board. Membership will be comprised of members with current or past experience of homelessness. The Advisory Committee membership will use this platform to provide feedback and recommendations to the Orange County CoC.
- b. Action: Establish a Lived Experience Advisory Committee to be chaired by Tim Houchen.

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

- c. CoC Board Comments
 - i. Judson Brown, a member of the PPS Committee, recommended a stipend for attendees of the Advisory Committee.
 - ii. Dawn Price offered her support and recommended geographical representation.
 - iii. Natalie Bui praised the recommendation and recommended a veteran seat be included in the membership of the Advisory Committee.
- d. Public Comments
 - i. Callie Rutter praised the CoC Board on the recommendation.
 - ii. David Duran agreed with Judson Brown and Natalie Bui's recommendations
 - iii. Michele Musachio and Diane Nied, both from the League of Women Voters, support the item and offered their support for the item.

5. Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Capital Request for Proposals (RFP)

Funding Recommendations – Zulima Lundy, Continuum of Care Manager

- a. The HHAP Capital Project RFP aimed to increase the number of available emergency shelter beds and/or permanent supportive housing unit for persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness by creating new beds and/or units or expanding capacity within existing projects. Covenant House California's proposal will develop an emergency shelter program in the City of Anaheim and will feature 25 beds for transitional age youth. The City of Costa Mesa's proposal will develop an emergency shelter program in the City of Costa Mesa to provide 72 beds for individuals experiencing homelessness in the Central Service Planning Area.
- b. Amended Motion: Judson Brown made a motion to 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 and request the City of Costa Mesa increase the bed capacity in the emergency shelter, as detailed below.
 - 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 and require the creation of 17 additional beds for individuals experiencing homelessness in the Central Service Planning Area to meet requirements of Federal lawsuit.

Becks Heyhoe seconded the motion for discussion. Judson Brown, Natalie Bui and Tim Houchen voted in favor of the amended motion. Jeanne Awrey, Matt Bates, Becks Heyhoe, Dawn Price, Albert Ramirez, Maricela Rios-Faust, Soledad Rivera, Christina Weckerly-Ramirez, Chair George Searcy, and Vice Chair Tim Shaw voted against the amended motion. Patti Long abstained from voting. The motion failed.

- c. CoC Board and OCC Comments:
 - i. Jason Austin, Director of Care Coordination, commented on the amended motion and the RFP process, noting that the County has concerns over placing such pressure on providers and applicants the County works with, particularly on an already submitted proposals in response to an RFP.
 - ii. Several CoC Board members expressed their concern over the 17 additional beds in the amended motion such as the structure's capacity, COVID-19 restrictions and the need for additional funding to create the additional beds.
- d. Public Comments:
 - iii. Susan Price, Assistant City Manager for the City of Costa Mesa, addressed the concerns raised by the CoC Board and noted that the proposal under consideration builds critical infrastructure for the System of Care.
 - iv. Carol Jacobs from the City of Newport Beach commented in support of the City of Costa Mesa's proposal and highlighted their partnership with the City of Costa Mesa. Carol Jacobs additionally shared an overview the efforts by the City of Newport Beach to site and develop an emergency shelter program, that in the end was unsuccessful.
 - v. Callie Rutter advocated for more housing opportunities.

- e. Original Motion: 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

Vice Chair Tim Shaw motioned to approve the recommendation. Maricela Rios-Faust seconded the recommendation. Patti Long abstained from voting. The recommendation passed by unanimous consent.

6. Continuum of Care Board Officer Elections – George Searcy, Chair

- a. Chair George Searcy led the election process for the CoC Board Officer positions including Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary.
- b. Chair
 - Dawn Price nominated Vice Chair Tim Shaw. Christina Weckerly-Ramirez nominated Matt Bates. Both members accepted the nominations. The CoC Board members casted their vote. The newly elected Chair of the CoC Board for the term beginning December 2020 to August 2021 is Tim Shaw.
- c. Vice Chair
 - Dawn Price nominated Maricela Rios-Faust. Soledad Rivera nominated Patti Long. Both members accepted the nomination. The CoC Board members casted their vote. The newly elected Vice Chair of the CoC Board for the term beginning December 2020 to August 2021 is Maricela Rios-Faust.
- d. Secretary
 - Tim Shaw nominated Becks Heyhoe. Becks Heyhoe accepted the nomination. No other members were nominated. The newly elected Secretary of the CoC Board for the term beginning December 2020- August 2021 is Becks Heyhoe.
- e. Dawn Price motioned to ratify the 2020 CoC Board Officer Elections. Tim Houchen seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
- f. The OCC and the CoC Board members congratulated Chair George Searcy for his outstanding leadership as Chair of the Orange County CoC Board from September 2019 to November 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Next Meeting: December 17, 2020