ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD Wednesday, July 28, 2021 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Webinar:

https://ocgov.webex.com/ocgov/j.php?MTID=m78 381b0705d5cda70df63e3c20e22480

> **Dial by Phone:** +1 (213) 306-3065

> > **Access Code:** 177 169 0705

AGENDA

Board Members

Jeanne Awrey, OC Dept. of Education 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 [Secretary] Tim Houchen, Hope4Restoration Patti Long, Mercy House

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

Call to Order – Tim Shaw, Chair

Board Member Roll Call – Becks Heyhoe, Secretary

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.

To address the CoC Board, members of the public are to enter their name and agenda item number in the WebEx 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 June 23, 2021.
- 2. Approve Continuum of Care Board Special Meeting Minutes from July 15, 2021.

AGENDA July 28, 2021 - 1 -

BUSINESS CALENDAR

- 1. Orange County System of Care Update Doug Becht, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination
- 2. Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Update Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
- 3. Racial Equity Analysis Provider Recommendation Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
 - a. Approve C4 Innovations as the recommended consultant to conduct a Racial Equity Analysis of the Orange County Continuum of Care.
- 4. North Service Planning Area Request for Proposals (RFP) Recommendation Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
 - a. Approve the release of the COVID-19 Homelessness Response Request For Proposals for the North Service Planning Area.
- 5. FY2021 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Update Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
 - a. Update on the FY2021 CoC NOFO Ad Hoc priorities and discussion.
- 6. CoC Board Nominating Committee Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
 - a. Appoint Patti Long, Elizabeth Andrade, David Gillanders, LeVal Brewer and Barry Ross to the CoC Board Nominating Committee as recommended by the CoC Board Chair, Tim Shaw.
- 7. Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding Recommendation Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
 - Approve the utilization of Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding to provide short-term funding support for the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program.
- **8. Emergency Housing Voucher Update** Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager and Doug Becht, Director of Operations, Office of Care Coordination
- 9. CoC Board Committee Updates
 - a. Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee
 - b. Coordinated Entry System Committee
 - c. Housing Opportunities Committee
 - d. Lived Experience Advisory Committee

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 25, 2021, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD Wednesday, June 23, 2021 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Webinar:

https://ocgov.webex.com/ocgov/j.php?MTID=m27 923e86076d2aac0433668233a5d1bc

Dial by Phone: +1 (213) 306-3065

Access Code: 133 590 8669

MINUTES

Board Members

Jeanne Awrey, OC Dept. of Education
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 [Secretary]
Tim Houchen, Hope4Restoration
Patti Long, Mercy House

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

Call to Order - Tim Shaw, Chair

Meeting called to order at 2:05 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Becks Heyhoe, Secretary

Present: Matt Bates, Natalie Bui, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Tim Houchen, Patti Long, Albert Ramirez, Soledad Rivera, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly-Ramirez.

Absent Excused: Jeanne Awrey, Judson Brown, Dawn Price, and Maricela Rios-Faust.

<u>Public Comments:</u> 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.

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

No public comments.

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 May 26, 2021.

Becks Heyhoe motioned to approve the item on the Consent Calendar. Natalie Bui seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

- 1. Orange County System of Care Update Jason Austin, Director, Office of Care Coordination
 - a. **Project Roomkey** The Office of Care Coordination (OCC) continues to operate Project Roomkey for individuals experiencing homelessness who are COVID-19 sick or symptomatic. Referrals into the Project Roomkey are made by the Public Health Services, hospitals, shelters, street outreach teams, and law enforcement. The current total capacity to serve is 150 individuals.
 - b. **COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts** The OCC is working with the Public Health Services and two Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) on COVID-19 vaccination efforts for people experiencing homelessness. The FQHCs are Families Together of Orange County in Tustin and Share Our Selves in Costa Mesa.
- 2. Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Update Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
 - a. Alternative Shelter Placement Update The OCC is utilizing additional state funding sources to continue provision of Alternative Shelter Placement services through June 30, 2021. Approximately 24,599 alternative shelter nights have been provided since the program was implemented.
 - b. Lived Experience Advisory Committee The candidates of the Lived Experience Advisory Committee participated in a first, introductory meeting to review the goals and purpose of the committee. The OCC has contacted all candidates to confirm their continued interest in participating in the Lived Experience Advisory Committee.
 - c. Ad Hoc and Working Group Updates
 - i. Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Ad Hoc: The CoC Board has appointed the ad hoc to analyze the 2020 LSA data, identify trends and areas of improvement, and present findings and recommendations to the CoC Board. The CoC is seeking volunteers to serve on the ad hoc
 - ii. CoC Nominating Committee: The CoC Nominating Committee will assist with reviewing the membership and selection process sections of the CoC Board Governance Charter and begin the recruitment process for the 2021 expiring seats of the CoC Board.
- 3. Presentation from the Families Solutions Collaborative Nikki Buckstead, Executive Director, Family Solutions Collaborative
 - a. The Family Solutions Collaborative is comprised of 23 family service organizations in Orange County working to prevent, divert, and house homeless families in a prompt and coordinated effort. Nikki

Buckstead presented on the leadership vision of the Family Solutions Collaborative. View the full presentation on slide 10 to 24 on the meeting presentation:

https://www.ochealthinfo.com/sites/hca/files/2021-

07/June%202021%20CoC%20Meeting%20Presentation%20-%20Final%206.25%20Combined.pdf

4. CoC Board Meeting Schedule Recommendations – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

a. The recommendation to hold a CoC Board meeting in July 2021 would allow the CoC Board to approve any necessary recommendations for the upcoming FY 2021 CoC NOFO. The recommendation to move the scheduled September 2021 CoC Board meeting is due to the conflict with the National Alliance on Ending Homelessness Conference.

<u>Recommended Action</u>: Schedule a CoC Board meeting on July 28, 2021, and reschedule the September CoC Board meeting for September 15 or 29, 2021.

George Searcy motioned to approve the recommended action. Tim Houchen seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

5. HMIS Access and Minimum Participation Policy Update – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

a. Zulima Lundy shared an overview of the HMIS Access and Minimum Participation Policy implementation. The HMIS Application has been developed and is available at the OC HMIS webpage – https://www.cognitoforms.com/2110C/HMISAccessApplication. The OCC and 2-1-1 Orange County have outreached to current HMIS participating agencies who need to complete an application and those who have previously expressed an interest in participating in HMIS.

Donald Dermit and Soledad Rivera expressed interest in serving on the HMIS Access Working Group.

b. <u>Modified Recommended Action</u>: Appoint Albert Ramirez, Nishtha Mohendra and Analisa Andrus to the HMIS Access Working Group to support the implementation of the policy. Authorize the addition of two members at the discretion of the Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee Chair.

George Searcy motioned to approve the recommended action. Patti Long seconded the motion. Albert Ramirez abstained. Matt Bates, Natalie Bui, Donald Dermit, Becks Heyhoe, Tim Houchen, Patti Long, Soledad Rivera, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly-Ramirez voted yes. The motion passed.

6. FY2021 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunity Process Update – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

a. Each year the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) releases a competitive NOFO that requires CoCs to evaluate project performance, funding priorities, establish policies for reallocation and program priority list, and submit a consolidated application. The annual CoC NOFO Competition is anticipated to be released by HUD in July 2021. The OCC will be releasing the Agency Administrative Review and Letter of Intent shortly after the release of the CoC NOFO on BidSync. The CoC NOFO Ad Hoc will be meeting in early July to evaluate project performance, funding priorities, establish policies for reallocation and program priority list.

7. Emergency Housing Vouchers – Doug Becht, Director of Operations and Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

- a. Zulima Lundy shared an overview of the Emergency Housing Vouchers
- b. The OCC has been meeting collectively and individually with the four Public Housing Agencies in Orange County to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Emergency Housing

Vouchers provided by HUD. The next step is to schedule a special meeting of the CoC Board in early July 2021 to approve the MOUs with the Orange County Public Housing Agencies for the use of the Emergency Housing Vouchers.

Public Comments:

- David Gillanders advocated for developing system flow within the System of Care. David supports moving occupants from Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) to an EHV opportunity to develop a flow within PSH.
- Pat Davis is excited to see the new funding coming into Orange County and is happy with the decisions developed by the team within the OCC.

Chair Tim Shaw and George Searcy closed the meeting in in honor of the memory of Jean Wegener, the former Chief Executive Officer at Serving People In Need (SPIN).

Meeting Adjourned: 3:21 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 28, 2021, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD SPECIAL MEETING Thursday, July 15, 2021 4 p.m. – 5p.m.

Webinar:

https://ocgov.webex.com/ocgov/j.php?MTID=m36 124783fb52abaf813265ad8ceb1640

Dial by Phone: +1 (213) 306-3065

Access Code: 177 290 1029

MINUTES

Board Members

Jeanne Awrey, OC Dept. of Education
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 [Secretary]
Tim Houchen, Hope4Restoration
Patti Long, Mercy House

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

Call to Order - Tim Shaw, Chair

Chair Tim Shaw called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

<u>Board Member Roll Call</u> – Becks Heyhoe, Secretary

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

Absent Excused: Matt Bates and Dawn Price

<u>Public Comments:</u> 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.

To address the CoC Board, members of the public are to enter their name and agenda item number in the WebEx 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 Emergency Housing Vouchers noting her excitement about the vouchers and advocated for housing those with the greatest needs first.

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.

No consent calendar items.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

- 1. Emergency Housing Vouchers Jason Austin, Director, Office of Care Coordination, and Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager
 - a. Chair Tim Shaw provided a summary on the efforts by the Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Administrative Entity, and the four Public Housing Agencies to draft and finalize the Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) that are being presented to the CoC Board for approval. Zulima Lundy shared an overview of the MOUs with the four Public Housing Agencies in Orange County for the Emergency Housing Vouchers provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Additional details regarding the implementation of the Emergency Housing Vouchers and related housing search assistance and supportive services will be presented at future CoC Board meetings. The presentation materials can be found on the CoC Board website: https://www.ochealthinfo.com/sites/hca/files/import/data/files/118896.pdf
 - b. <u>Recommended Action</u>: Approve the Emergency Housing Voucher MOU between the Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Administrative Entity, and the Orange County Housing Authority.

Tim Houchen motioned to approve the recommended action. Vice Chair Maricela Rios-Faust seconded the motion. Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, Albert Ramirez, and Maricela Rios-Faust abstained. Jeanne Awrey, Judson Brown, Natalie Bui, Donald Dermit, Tim Houchen, Soledad Rivera, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly-Ramirez voted yes. The motion passed.

<u>Public Comments</u>: Ugochi Nicholson, from the Public Law Center, thanked the CoC Board and the Public Housing Authorities for their continued work on the Emergency Housing Voucher program. Ugochi Nicholson shared concerns, asked for clarity on several items within the MOUs, and noted that she would send her comment in writing as well. Ugochi Nicholson appreciated the opportunity to provide feedback and comments on the MOUs.

- c. <u>Recommended Action</u>: Approve the Emergency Housing Voucher MOU between the Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Administrative Entity, and the Santa Ana Housing Authority.
 - Soledad Rivera motioned to approve the recommended action. Donald Dermit seconded the motion. Judson Brown, Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, and Albert Ramirez abstained. Jeanne Awrey, Natalie Bui, Donald Dermit, Tim Houchen, Maricela Rios-Faust, Soledad Rivera, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly-Ramirez voted yes. The motion passed.
- d. <u>Recommended Action</u>: Approve the Emergency Housing Voucher MOU between the Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Administrative Entity, and the Anaheim Housing Authority.

Donald Dermit motioned to approve the recommended action. Natalie Bui seconded the motion. Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, and Albert Ramirez abstained. Jeanne Awrey, Judson Brown, Natalie Bui,

Donald Dermit, Tim Houchen, Maricela Rios-Faust, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly-Ramirez voted yes. The motion passed.

e. <u>Recommended Action</u>: Approve the Emergency Housing Voucher MOU between the Office of Care Coordination, as the CoC Administrative Entity, and the Garden Grove Housing Authority.

Tim Houchen motioned to approve the recommended action. Vice Chair Maricela Rios-Faust seconded the motion. Becks Heyhoe, Patti Long, and Albert Ramirez abstained. Jeanne Awrey, Judson Brown, Natalie Bui, Donald Dermit, Tim Houchen, Maricela Rios-Faust, George Searcy, Tim Shaw, and Christina Weckerly-Ramirez voted yes. The motion passed.

<u>Coc Board Member Comments</u>: Christina Weckerly-Ramirez and Becks Heyhoe noted a few discrepancies and areas that required further clarification within the MOU for the Garden Grove Housing Authority and recommended areas with additional follow up. The Office of Care Coordination agreed to review the MOU and provide clarifications at the next meeting.

<u>Public Comments</u>: Callie Rutter commented on the prices of rental properties around Orange County, inquired about timeline for the Emergency Housing Vouchers and expressed a concern over finding apartments at this time.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:52 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 28, 2021, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Subject: Racial Equity Analysis Provider Recommendation

Recommended Action:

a. Approve C4 Innovations as the recommended consultant to conduct a Racial Equity Analysis of the Orange County Continuum of Care.

Background:

On June 24, 2020, the Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board directed the Office of Care Coordination, as the Administrative Entity to the Orange County CoC, to identify a consultant to conduct a racial disparities and equity evaluation of CoC systems and processes. C4 Innovations is being recommended by the Office of Care Coordination as the consultant to provide specialized technical assistance to conduct a racial equity analysis for the operations of the CoC.

C4 Innovations has more than a decade of experience leading research, training, and consultation efforts to advance best practices and social change in homeless services, including working closely with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). C4 Innovations supports agencies, systems, and communities across the United States to understand and document disparities and identify and implement equitable strategies.

C4 Innovation will provide a multi-phase process to assess Orange County's homeless response system and offer strategic options to increase the knowledge and capacity around racial equity and transform the homeless response system to promote equitable outcomes.

Phase 1: Assessment and Learning

C4 Innovations will focus on supporting the Orange County CoC by assessing the current status of equity objectives and available data to establish an initial engagement and expectations with key stakeholders, including black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) and other individuals with current or past lived experience of homelessness.

Phase 2: Action Planning and Continued Learning

C4 Innovations will support Orange County CoC stakeholders as they deepen their knowledge and move towards action planning and implementation. Using qualitative and quantitative data, C4 Innovations will work with the CoC to prioritize their areas of focus within the homeless crisis response system and develop a Racial Equity Roadmap with clear objectives and strategies to advance more equitable outcomes.

Phase 3: Implementation Support and Sustainability

To support Orange County CoC in the successful and sustainable implementation of the strategies outlined in the Racial Equity Roadmap, C4 Innovations will provide sustainability training and coaching to key

stakeholders so they can anticipate and address challenges, build capacity for racial equity objectives, and plan for continuous quality improvement. This will ensure that the Office of Care Coordination and the CoC receive support to build upon the initial learning continuously and iteratively through the implementation of procedures and tools and to take the time to review and measure progress against goals set in the Racial Equity Roadmap.

Analysis:

C4 Innovations offers strategic options for the Office of Care Coordination and the Orange County CoC to increase the knowledge and capacity around racial equity and transform the homeless response system to promote equitable outcomes. The recommended contract will be funded by the state Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 1 grant funding allocated to the Orange County CoC by the State of California Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council and the Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (ESG-CV) Grant issued by the State of California Housing and Community Development.

Subject: North Service Planning Area Request for Proposals Recommendation

Recommended Action:

a. Approve the release of the COVID-19 Homelessness Response Request For Proposals for the North Service Planning Area.

Background:

On July 22, 2020, the Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board appointed an ad hoc of non-conflicted members to work with the Office of Care Coordination to release a request for proposals (RFP) for the COVID-19 Response Funding. After meeting with the ad hoc, on August 5, 2020 the CoC Board authorized the OCC to release an RFP to solicit proposals for COVID-19 Response Homeless and Prevention Response.

On September 9, 2020, HCA issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to seek qualified providers for COVID-19 Homeless and Prevention Response Services, with three separate projects types identified within: Homeless Prevention Services, Rapid Rehousing Services and COVID-19 Responsive Services.

On March 24, 2021, the Orange County CoC Board approved the selection of Project C – COVID-19 Response Homeless Service Vendor recommendation, as recommended by the COVID-19 Homeless and Prevention Response RFP Panel for the North, Central and South Service Planning Area. However, the Project C – COVID-19 Response Homeless Service for the North Service Planning Area did not end up moving forward in contracting or implementation.

The Office of Care Coordination has been working with cities, law enforcement, and other homeless service agencies and stakeholders to better understand the service needs in the North Service Planning Area. The Office of Care Coordination is recommending the release the COVID-19 Homelessness Response Request For Proposals for the North Service Planning Area that will coordinate and collaborate with the Homeless Outreach and Proactive Engagement (HOPE) Center being developed by the North Orange County Public Safety Task Force being rebranded the North HOPE Team.

The HOPE Center will create a centralized location for stakeholders and homeless service providers to colocate services thus creating a synergy of collaboration and innovation where those experiencing homelessness could be better served.

Analysis:

Approval of the recommended action will allow the release of the COVID-19 Homelessness Response Request For Proposals for the North Service Planning Area and make available up to \$500,000 in Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 1 funding allocated to the Orange County CoC.

Additionally, it would expand the available homeless service programs and resources available to those experiencing homelessness in the North Service Planning Area.

Subject: CoC Board Nominating Committee

Recommended Action:

a. Appoint Patti Long, Elizabeth Andrade, David Gillanders, LeVal Brewer and Barry Ross to the CoC Board Nominating Committee as recommended by the CoC Board Chair, Tim Shaw.

Background:

During the May 26, 2021, meeting of the Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board, the CoC Board approved the establishing of a Nominating Committee to review the CoC Board membership and election process. This recommendation was presented to the CoC Board by the Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee.

Per the Orange County CoC Governance Charter there is a need to establish a Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee is to be comprised of three to five voting members appointed by the CoC Board Chair and confirming the CoC Board. The Nominating Committee is responsible for recruiting candidates, confirming candidate's willingness to serve and reviewing the qualifications of candidates in collaboration with the Collaborative Applicant.

The Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant, has been working closely with the CoC Chair Tim Shaw to identify interested voting members to participate in the Nominating Committee and support with the review of the Coc Board membership and election process. Patti Long, Elizabeth Andrade, David Gillanders, Laval Brewer and Barry Ross have agreed to serve on the CoC Board Nominating Committee.

Analysis:

Approval of the recommended action activities will confirm the membership of the CoC Board Nominating Committee as recommended by the CoC Chair Tim Shaw. The approval of the recommended action will also support the Orange County CoC in updating its process to be reflective of feedback and lessons learned from the 2020 process, as well as expanding and/or refining membership.

Subject: Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding Recommendation

Recommended Action:

a. Approve the utilization of Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding to provide short-term funding support for the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program.

Background:

In April 2020, the State of California made available Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding to the eligible applicants. The Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC) received a total allocation of \$1,336,888.52.

The Orange County CoC has utilized this funding primarily for the provision of non-congregate shelter for those experiencing homelessness who are at high-risk of severe COVID-19 illness due to underlying health conditions and/or age 65 and older, and for those that are COVID-19 sick or symptomatic. The Letter of Agreement for the Alternative Shelter Placement provided the mechanism for non-profit organizations and homeless service organizations to access this resource and seek reimbursement, as appropriate. Through this program over 25,000 alternative shelter nights were provided to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Orange County. The program ended on June 30, 2021.

The Office of Care Coordination, as the Administrative Entity for the Orange County CoC, has worked to complete needed reporting for the HCFC COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding along with other time-limited COVID-19 response funding. As such, the Office of Care Coordination was able to maximize other funding sources with shorter expenditure timeframes by covering the costs of the Alternative Shelter Placement Program. This has resulted in a cost-savings of approximately \$700,000 in COVID-19 Emergency Homelessness Funding.

The recent delays in the approval of the State of California's budget have impacted the ongoing operations of the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) in Orange County. HDAP assist people experiencing homelessness who are likely eligible for disability benefits by providing advocacy for disability benefits as well as housing supports. HDAP has four core requirements: outreach, case management, disability advocacy, and housing assistance. In Orange County, HDAP services are provided by Mercy House, City Net and Friendship Shelter.

Analysis:

Approval of the recommended action will allow the current HDAP service providers to continue providing services to currently enrolled participants without disrupting the case management and support being

provided towards securing long-term benefits and permanent housing. Additionally, this will also ensure that HDAP services can quickly resume and be expanded following the confirmation of funding from the State of California Department of Social Services.