Orange County
Continuum of Care Board
May 26, 2021

System of Care Update

Jason Austin, Director

Office of Care Coordination

Project Roomkey

- The County of Orange continues to operate temporary isolation shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness who are COVID-19 sick or symptomatic

- Total capacity to serve is 150 individuals

- Referrals into the program are made by the Public Health Services, hospitals, shelters, street outreach teams, and law enforcement

COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts at Homeless Shelters

- Office of Care Coordination is working with the Incident Management Team, Public Health Services and two Federally Qualified Health Centers

- The Office of Care Coordination has contacted all shelters in the county

- To date a total of 840 vaccines have been administered at shelter sites

- Efforts will continue to make vaccines available to all shelter participants

- Efforts to vaccinate the unsheltered population are underway

Governor's 2021 May Budget Revision on Homelessness

- Includes an additional $4.7 billion reflecting a comprehensive approach to addressing homelessness, including:
    - Ending family homelessness
    - Non-congregate shelter transition to permanent housing
    - Supporting vulnerable populations
    - Expanded CalTrans coordination and addressing encampments
    - Increasing accountability through the Homeless Coordinating and Financial Council

Continuum of Care (CoC) Updates
Zulima Lundy, Continuum of Care Manager

Alternative Shelter Placement Update

- Letter of Agreements for the provision of Alternative Shelter Placement are an available resource to the Continuum of Care Providers

- Maximizing Funding Available
    - Expenditures through December 30, 2020, paid with CARES Act funding
    - Fully expended ($1.2 million) State COVID-19 Homelessness Responses funding allocated to the CoC has been committed to date
    - Office of Care Coordination utilizing additional State funding source to continue provision of services through June 30, 2021

- Approximately 23,700 alternative shelter nights have been provided since the program was implemented

- Currently assisting 44 households with alternative shelter
    - 4 families experiencing unsheltered homelessness
    - 40 individuals at high risk for severe COVID-19 illness

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Lived Experience Advisory Committee Update

- The Lived Experience Advisory Committee application period closed on May 15, 2021

- Total of 12 applications received

- The Office of Care Coordination will review applications to determine eligibility

- First meeting will serve as an orientation and will be scheduled in June 2021

- Still seeking an interested applicant for the seat for transitional aged youth (18-24). Applications for this seat will remain open until seat is filled.

- For more information and to access the application visit: https://www.ochealthinfo.com/lived-experience

2022 HMIS Data Standards

- The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has released the FY 2022 Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Data Standards

- The FY 2022 HMIS Data Standards provide the requirements for the programming and use of all HMIS and comparable database systems effective October 1, 2021

- The HMIS Data Manual supports data collection and reporting efforts to help understand the data elements that are required in an HMIS to meet participation and reporting requirements established by HUD and the federal partners

- HMIS Data Standards Link: https://bit.ly/3oyBdEh

Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)

- HUD released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for FY 2019 and FY 2020 for YHDP

- YHDP is an initiative designed to address systemic responses to youth homelessness and significantly reduce the number of youth experiencing homelessness

- Approximately $145 million in up to 50 participating communities

Department of Education Allocation for Students Experiencing Homelessness

- The California Department of Education (CDE) is set to receive approximately $99 million distributed in two cycles with the first cycle to be released July 2021
- CDE will release the funding on a per student formula directly to the Local Agencies of Education
- Eligible activities include:
  - Paying for short-term, temporary housing (e.g. motel stay)
  - Provision of wraparound services, supplies, transportation, access to high-speed internet, and prepaid debit cards
 - Purchases of cell phones or other technological devices

Presentation on the 2021 Housing Inventory Count and Point in Time Count

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

Erin DeRycke, 2-1-1 Orange County

Background

- The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and the Sheltered Point in Time Count (PIT) are submitted to HUD on an annual basis and are completed during a single night during the last ten days of January

- The Sheltered PIT was conducted on January 25, 2021, and reflects the number of people staying in emergency shelter and transitional housing projects.

- The HIC reflects the beds available in Orange County that target people experiencing homelessness

2021 HIC – Total Beds

Total Bed Count by Project Type

●2019 ●2020 ●2021

The total for Orange County's 2021 Housing Inventory Count is **6928 beds**, a 108 bed decrease from 2020. Total excludes under development and overflow beds

Count of Beds

Project Type	2019	2020	2021
Emergency Shelter - Year Round	1989	2167	2269
Emergency Shelter -Seasonal	400	400	71
Transitional Housing	1105	1017	899
Rapid Re-Housing	774	661	820
Other Permanent Housing	108	295	267
Permanent Supportive Housing	2243	2496	2602
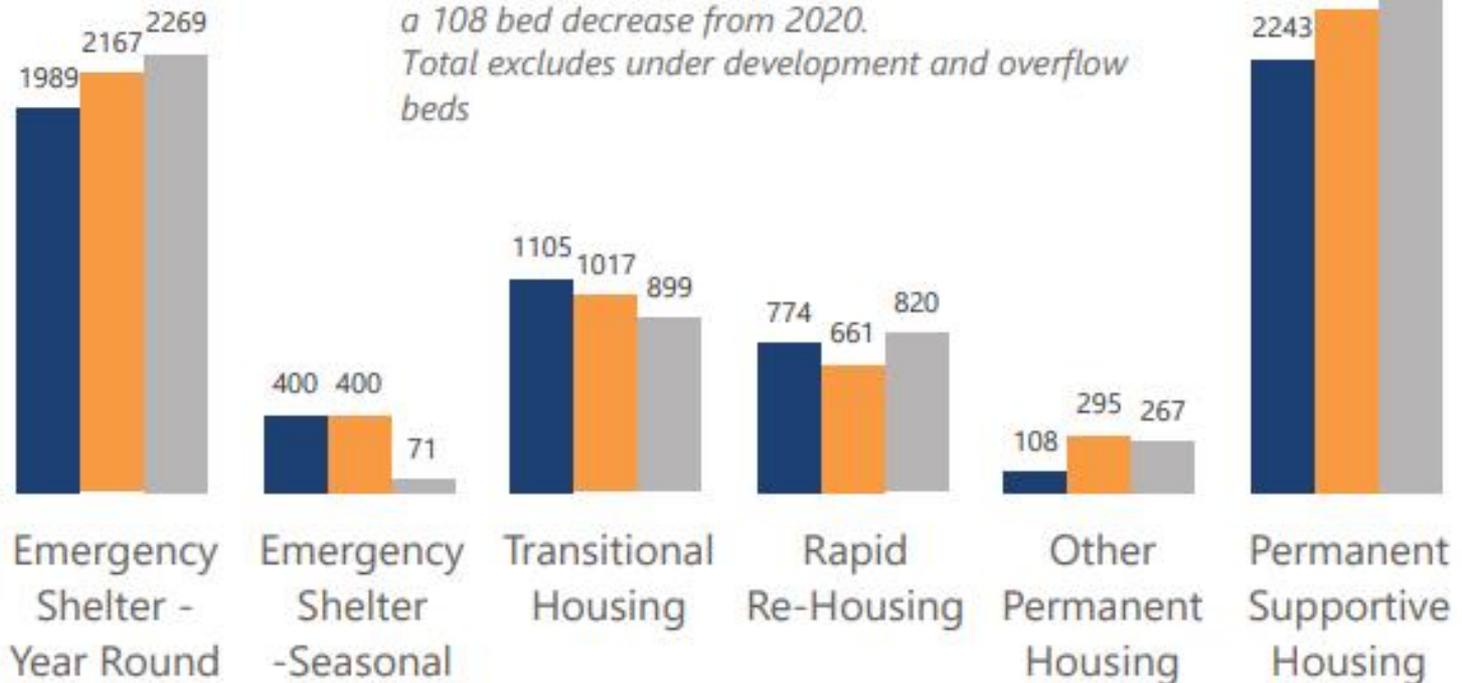
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2021 HIC – Beds Distribution

Bed Count by Project Type and Bed Type *Excludes under development, seasonal, and overflow beds.*

● Adults Only ● Children and Adults ● Children Only

Project Type	Adults Only	Children and Adults	Children Only
Emergency Shelter - Year Round	75%	24%	
Transitional Housing	28%	69%	3%
Rapid Re-Housing	31%	69%	
Permanent Supportive Housing	54%	46%	
Other Permanent Housing	52%	48%	

Percent of Beds
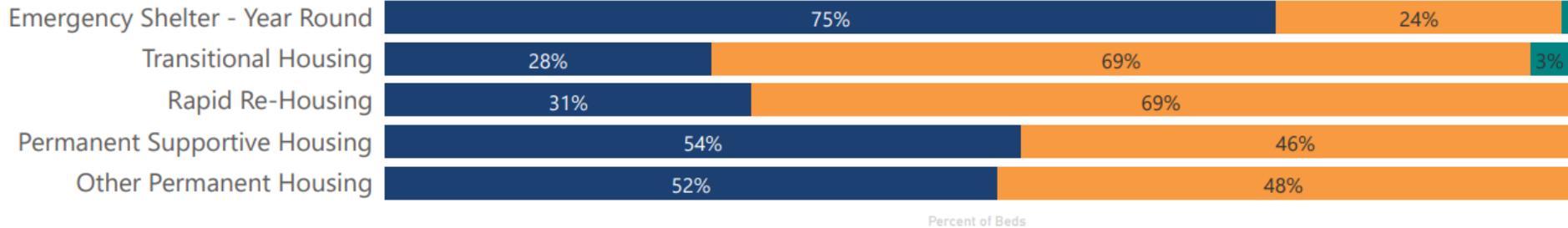
Special Population Beds Distribution

● Emergency Shelter - Year Round ● Permanent Supportive Housing ● Rapid Re-Housing ● Transitional Housing

Population			
Chronically Homeless Beds	100%		
Veteran Beds	86%	12%	
Youth Beds	74%	26%	
Domestic Violence Beds	48%	36%	15%

Percent of Beds

2021 HIC – COVID-19 Response Beds

Organization Name	Project Name
1736 Family Crisis Center	SSVF EHA
CoC FEMA	CoC-Funded FEMA COVID-19
Family Assistance Ministries	Project Room Key
Illumination Foundation	Temporary Isolation Shelter
Mercy House	FEMA - Costa Mesa
Mercy House	FEMA - Santa Ana
US Veterans Initiatives	SSVF EHA
Volunteers of America	SSVF EHA

COVID-19 Reponse Bed Distribution

233 — Adults and Children
201 — Adults Only
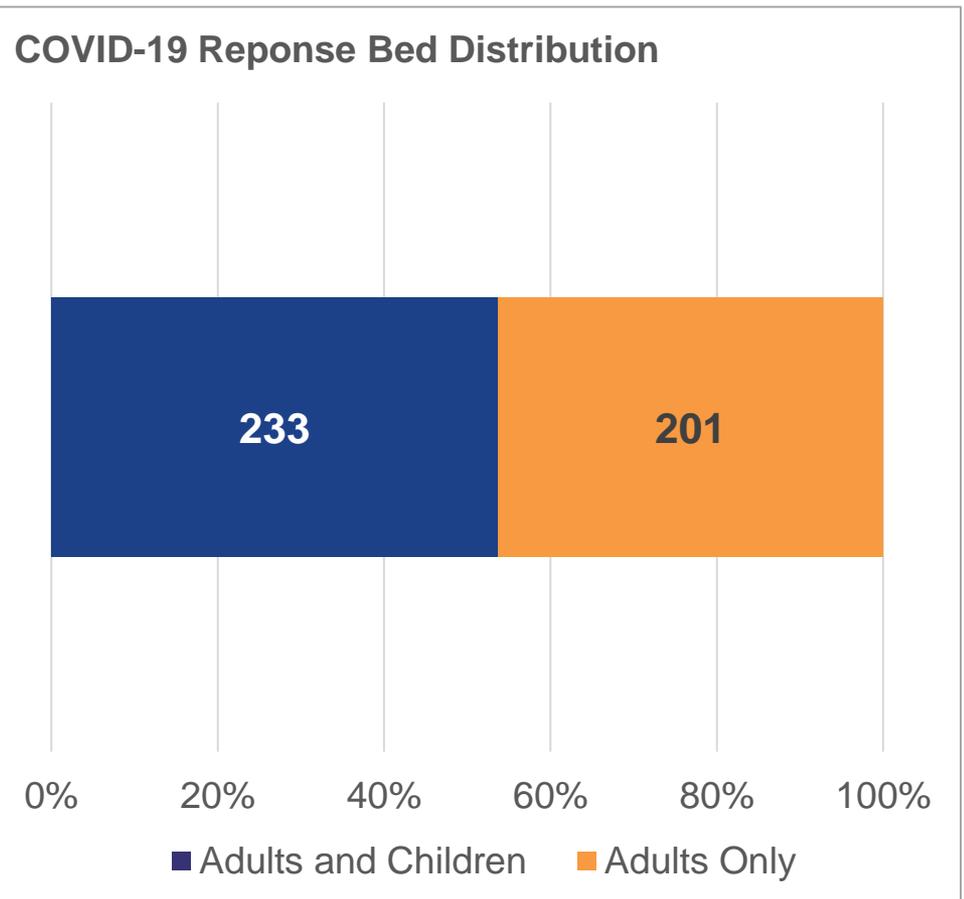
2021 Sheltered PIT – Total Persons

Sheltered PIT Count from 2019 to 2021

● 2019 ● 2020 ● 2021
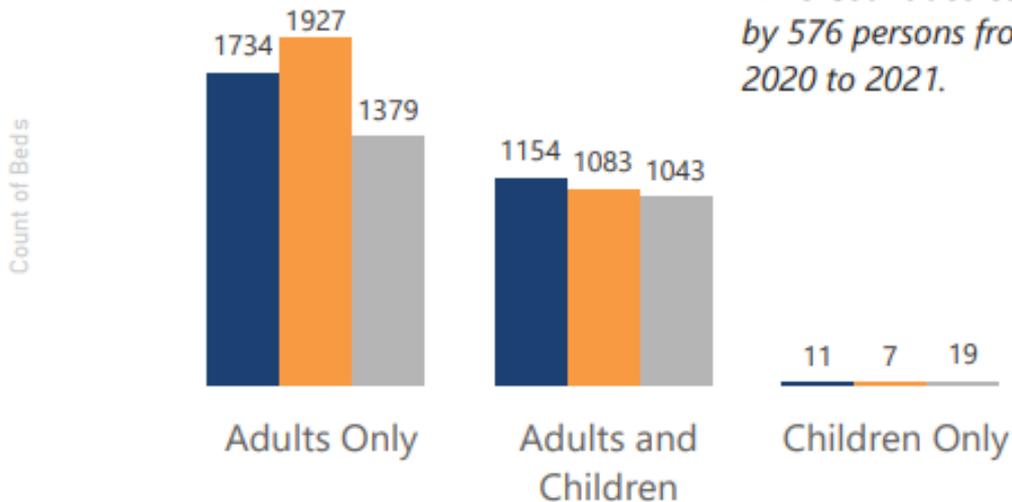
The Sheltered Point In Time Count decreased by 576 persons from 2020 to 2021.

Count of Beds

Adults Only: 1734, 1927, 1379
Adults and Children: 1154, 1083, 1043
Children Only: 11, 7, 19

Service Planning Area

● Emergency Shelter ● Transitional Housing

Count of Sheltered Persons

North: 1005, 229
Central: 738, 290
South: 130
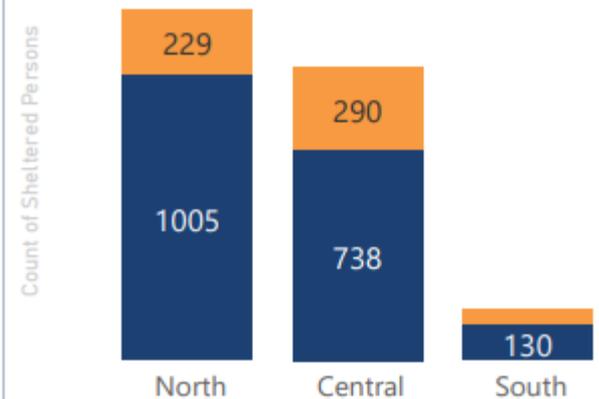
2021 Sheltered PIT – Special Populations

Chronically Homeless Families

- 2019: 15
- 2020: 8
- 2021: 10

Special Populations (Individuals)

● 2019 ● 2020 ● 2021

Clients can be counted in multiple categories

	2019	2020	2021
Veterans	99	130	162
Youth	151	127	102
CH Individuals	556	825	431
Seniors	255	322	295
Domestic Violence	185	261	288
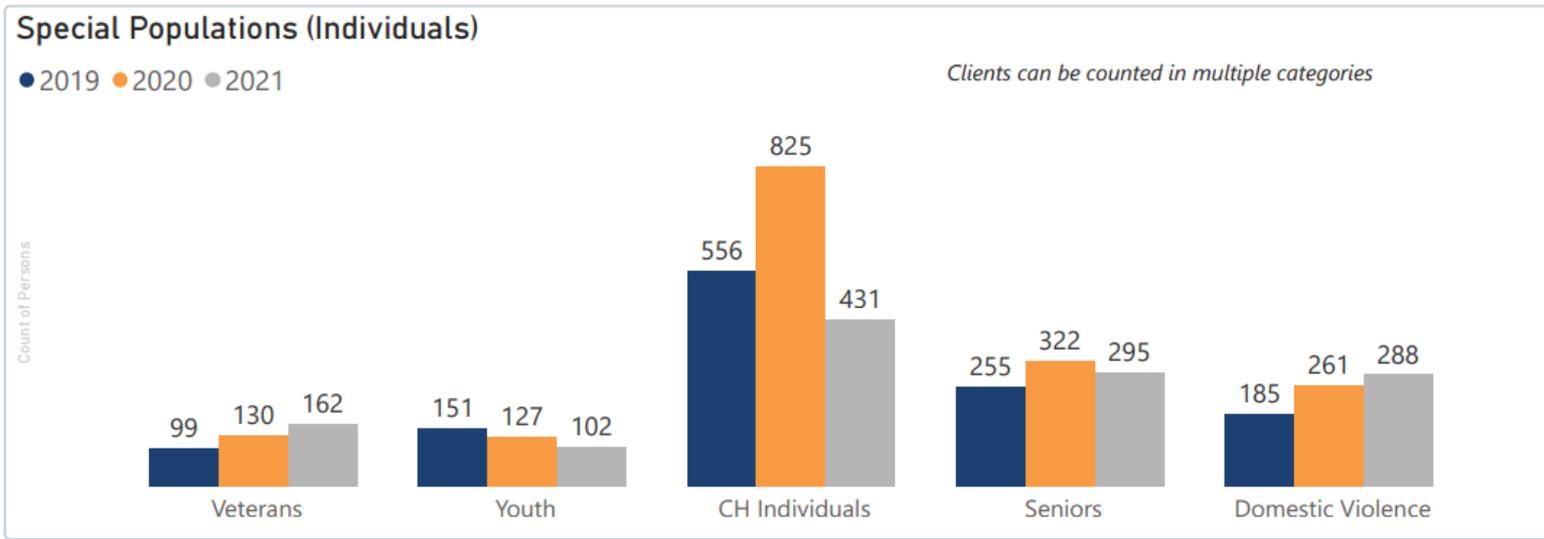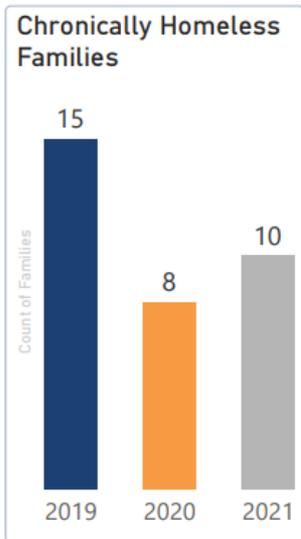
Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee (PPS) Recommendations

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

Maricela Rios-Faust, Vice Chair

CoC Board Election Process For Expiring Seats

- In 2020, Eight (8) CoC Board seats expired and were filled through the CoC Board election process
- For 2021, Seven (7) CoC Board seats are expiring and will be up for election:
  - Veteran or veteran service agency representative
  - Education / McKinney-Vento representative
  - Emergency Solutions Grant Program funded agency or recipient agent
  - Four (4) At Large representatives
    - Affordable Housing Developer
    - Expertise on homeless services / representation of homeless service providers
      - Emergency Shelter Operator
      - Permanent Supportive Housing Operator

CoC Board Selection Process as outlined in CoC Governance Charter

- CoC Membership to be informed when the nomination period opens and closes

- Nominating Committee to be comprised of three to five voting members and will be appointed annually by the Board Chair and confirmed by the CoC Board

- Nominating Committee will:

  - Recruit candidates and confirm willingness to serve
  - Work with Collaborative Applicant to verify qualifications of candidates

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CoC Board Selection Process as outlined in CoC Governance Charter

Month	Timeline Tasks
April	Board Chair appoints Nominating Committee
May	Nominating Committee convenes
June	Nominations made to the CoC Board
August	Full membership meeting vote to elect the CoC Board and Officers CoC Board seating takes place. Incoming CoC Board members to complete training about the CoC

Recommendation Actions

- Establish a Nominating Committee to review the CoC Board membership and election process as recommended by the PPS Committee

- Extend term of expiring CoC Board seats until January 2022 to allow for election process as recommended by the PPS Committee

HMIS Access and Minimum Participation Requirement Policy

An organization that at minimum meets one of the following criteria will be granted access to HMIS:

- Manage a homeless assistance project with beds to be entered into HMIS to support an increase in bed coverage for the CoC. The following homeless assistance project types will increase bed coverage.

- Receive federal and/or state funding for the implementation and operations of a homeless assistance project and/or homelessness prevention project that requires HMIS participation. Attachment A details federal and state funding sources that requires HMIS participation.

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HMIS Access

Organizations receiving funding that requires HMIS participation will be given data entry access, but this does not necessarily include data sharing with other agencies.

- Victim service providers and legal service providers that are recipients of funds requiring participation in HMIS, but do not directly enter data into an HMIS, must use a comparable database.

- Law enforcement agencies and legal service providers receiving funding that requires HMIS participation will be given data entry access only.

HMIS Access

An organization that does not meet one of the minimum requirements will be required to submit an HMIS Access Application.

HMIS Access Application requires organizations to detail how their organization's participation in HMIS will be able to:

- Meaningfully contribute information related to homeless assistance projects or homelessness prevention projects to the Orange County Continuum of Care; and
- How HMIS access will improve the provision of homeless services in the Orange County Continuum of Care.

HMIS Participation Requirements

An organization that is granted HMIS access is required to be a Contributing HMIS Organization. As part of the data entry requirements, organizations are expected to utilize HMIS for the following activities related to the homeless assistance project and/or homelessness prevention project:

- Minimum active enrollments
- Minimum activities tracked within HMIS
- Regular updates
- Minimum of one active HMIS User at all times
- Complete any reporting, data quality, data entry, or other requirements

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Process Followed

- The proposed policy was discussed during the PPS Committee on March 2021, April 2021, and May 2021

- Updates provided to the CoC Board on March 2021 and April 2021

- The CoC Board established an Ad Hoc to work with PPS Committee supporting the development of the proposed policy

- HMIS Access Ad Hoc met four times to discuss the proposed policy

- Feedback and comment period was from April 13 to April 27, 2021

Next Steps

- Evaluate current organizations with HMIS access and request applications be completed by organizations

- Establish the HMIS Access Ad Hoc to review HMIS Access Applications during June 2021 meeting of the CoC Board

- Establish a schedule and review process for HMIS Policies and Procedures to review the process. This will allow the Orange County CoC to prepare and conduct a review of the HMIS Policies and Procedures at length

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Recommendation Action

- Approve the HMIS Access and Minimum Participation Requirements Policy as recommended by the PPS Committee

- Establish a schedule and review process for the HMIS Policies and Procedures as recommended by the HMIS Access Ad Hoc

Coordinated Entry System Chair Appointment

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

Tim Shaw, Chair

Business Calendar – Item #5

Background

- Patti Long resigned from Chair of the Coordinated Entry System (CES) Committee as Mercy House is supporting the operations of the Individual Component of CES.

Recommendation Action

- Appoint Natalie Bui as the Chair of the CES Committee

Emergency Housing Vouchers

Doug Becht, Director of Operations

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

Overview of Emergency Housing Vouchers

The Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program is available through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Through EHV, HUD is providing 70,000 housing choice vouchers to local Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) in order to assist individuals and families who are:

- Experiencing Homeless,
- At risk of homelessness,
- Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, or
- Were recently homeless or have a high-risk of housing instability.

Overview of Emergency Housing Vouchers

- The four PHAs in Orange County have been awarded EHVs by HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing

- The allocation per PHA are as follows:

  - Orange County Housing Authority – 557 vouchers

  - Anaheim Housing Authority – 272 vouchers

  - Garden Grove Housing Authority – 117 vouchers

  - Santa Ana Housing Authority – 87 vouchers

EHVs Fees and Funding

Expedited Issuance Reporting Fee – initial lease up costs and related efforts to expedite the leasing of the EHVs

- $100 for each EHV that is initially leased up

- $500 for each EHV that is leased upon no later than 4 months after the effective date of accepting the vouchers **or** $250 for each EHV that is leased after 4 months but not later than 6 months after the effective date of accepting the vouchers.

EHVs Fees and Funding

Service Fees – one-time service fee of $3,500 for each EHV voucher allocated to the PHA.

The eligible uses are designed to prevent and respond to COVID-19 by facilitating the leasing of the EHVs, including:

- Housing Search Assistance (Required)
- Security Deposit/Utility Deposit/Rental Application/Holding Fees
- Owner related uses – landlord recruitment and outreach, expediting inspection process, enhanced customer services, incentive sand/or retention payments.
- Other eligible uses – moving expenses, tenant-readiness services, essential household items, renter's insurance if required by the lease.

EHVs Require Housing Search Assistance Provided

- Help individual families identify potentially available units during their housing search, including physically accessible units with features for family members with disabilities, as well as units in low-poverty neighborhoods

- Provide transportation assistance and directions to potential units

- Conduct landlord/owner outreach

- Assist with the completion of rental applications and PHA forms Help expedite the EHV leasing process for the family.

PHAs Required Partnership with the CoC

- HUD is establishing an alternative requirement under which the PHA must enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the CoC to establish a partnership for the administration of the EHVs

- The MOU is a complete statement of the responsibilities of the parties and evidence of a commitment of resources to the EHV program

- The primary responsibility of the CoC under the MOU is to make direct referrals of qualifying individuals and families to the PHA

MOU between CoC and PHAs Minimum Requirements

- Commitment to administering the EHVs in partnership

- Goals and standards of success in administering the EHVs

- Point person for each organization that will serve as EHV liaison

- A statement that all parties agree to cooperate with any program evaluation efforts

- The specific population eligible for the EHV assistance that will be referred to the PHA by the CoC

- The supportive services, including financial assistance, that will be provided to assist EHV participants and who will provide them

- The roles and responsibilities of the PHA and CoC

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Target Populations for EHVs

Individuals	Families	Veterans
Transitional Aged Youth	Move-On Strategy	Re-Entry and Exiting Facilities
	Domestic Violence	

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Projected Timelines and Activities

- **Early June** – Develop MOU between CoCs and PHA

- **June** – Work with CES contracted-partners and CES Access Points to provide information of requirements and workflow

- **June 23, 2021** – Final MOU to be approved by the CoC Board during meeting

- **Early July** – Begin EHV referrals from CES to PHAs

Recommendation Action

- Authorize the County of Orange Office of Care Coordination as the Administrative Entity of the Orange County Continuum of Care to enter into Memorandum of Understanding negotiations with the four Orange County Public Housing Agencies for the Emergency Housing Vouchers provided by HUD

Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) Ad Hoc Recommendation

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

Background

- After the LSA presentation during the April CoC Board meeting, the CoC Board Chair suggested the data be explored to determine how the information can create a system improvement or actionable items.

Recommendation Action

- Establish an Ad Hoc to review the Orange County CoC LSA. The Ad Hoc will present findings and recommendations to the PPS Committee.

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Funding Recommendation

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

Background

- The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the City of Laguna Beach's plans and budgets for capital improvements and program operations. Funding will support the increased capital improvement and program costs that the City of Laguna Beach experienced as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recommendation Action

- Approve the use of up to $66,000 in HHAP funding to support capital improvement and program costs for the City of Laguna Beach's contract.

FY2021 CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

Business Calendar – Item #9

Background

- Each year HUD releases a competitive NOFA 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 NOFA Competition is anticipated to be released by HUD in Mid-June to July 2021.

Recommendation Action

- Establish an Ad Hoc for the FY 2021 CoC NOFA Competition