ORANGE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
MEETING
Wednesday, April 26, 2023
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location:

County Administration South (CAS) Building

Conference Center

425 West Santa Ana Blvd. Room 104/106

Santa Ana, CA 92701-4599

Click Here for parking information.

MINUTES

Board Members

Nichole Gideon, Individual	Kelly Bruno-Nelson, CalOptima Health
Elida Sanchez, OC Department of Education	Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter [Chair]
Eric Richardson, Volunteers of America	George Searcy, Jamboree Housing
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward	Sandra Lozeau, City of Anaheim
Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana	Melanie McQueen, PATH
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options	Robert "Santa Bob" Morse, Individual
Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Orangewood Foundation [Secretary]	Ami Rowland, Covenant House California
	Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way [Vice Chair]
Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Health Care Agency	Tim Shaw, Individual
Jason Phillips, Individual	

* In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and County Language Access Policy, those requiring accommodation and/or interpreter services for this meeting should notify the Office of Care Coordination 72 hours prior to the meeting at (714) 834-5000 or email CareCoordination@ocgov.com. Requests received less than 72 hours prior to the meeting will still receive every effort to reasonably fulfill within the time provided. *

Call to Order – Dawn Price, Chair

Chair Dawn Price called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

Board Member Roll Call – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Secretary

Present: Elida Sanchez, Eric Richardson, Nishtha Mohendra, Judson Brown, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Dawn Price, George Searcy, Sandra Lozeau, Melanie McQueen, Robert "Santa Bob" Morse, Ami Rowland, Becks Heyhoe, and Tim Shaw

Absent Excused: Nichole Gideon, Maricela Rios-Faust, and Jason Phillips

<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 complete a Request to Address the CoC Board form prior to the beginning of each agenda item and submit it to CoC Board staff. Staff will call your name in the order received.

Members of the public may also submit public comment by emailing CareCoordination@ocgov.com. All comments submitted via email at least 60 minutes before the start of the CoC Board meeting will be distributed to the CoC Board members for their consideration and all comments will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include "CoC Board Meeting Comment" in the email subject line.

- No public comments.

<u>Board Member Comments:</u> Members of the CoC Board may provide comments on matters not appearing on the agenda so long as the subject matter is within the jurisdiction of the CoC Board.

- Robert "Santa Bob" Morse expressed disappointment at the April 2023 meeting of the Commission to End Homelessness meeting as Chairman Wagner expressed lack of support for the Housing First practices.
- Eric Richardson stated that during the April 25, 2023, meeting of the Garden Grove City Council, Volunteers of America of Los Angeles (VOALA) was approved as the operator of the Central Cities Navigation Center in the City of Garden Grove, which will begin operations by 2024.
- Sandra Lozeau shared that there have been comments at Anaheim City Council's meetings regarding inclement weather. Sandra Lozeau emphasized that there is always extreme weather during the summer and winter seasons, therefore, there needs to be a plan in place to ensure that shelter is provided.

<u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u>
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 CoC Board Meeting Minutes from March 22, 2023

2. Agencies and Jurisdictions Approved for Homeless Management Information System Access
   a. Receive and file list of agencies and jurisdictions approved for HMIS access from January 21, 2023, through April 21, 2023.

Robert "Santa Bob" Morse motioned to approve the items on the Consent Calendar. Eric Richardson seconded the motion. Elida Sanchez, Eric Richardson, Nishtha Mohendra, Judson Brown, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Dawn Price, George Searcy, Melanie McQueen, Robert "Santa Bob" Morse, and Ami Rowland voted yes. Sandra Lozeau, Becks Heyhoe, and Tim Shaw abstained. Motion passed.

<u>BUSINESS CALENDAR</u>

1. **CoC Racial Equity Dashboard** – Erin DeRycke, Vice President, Data Analytics, 2-1-1 Orange County and Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator, Office of Care Coordination

   Felicia Boehringer provided background on the development of the CoC Racial Equity Dashboard which began in June 2022. Erin DeRycke provided an overview on the development and purpose of the CoC Racial Equity Dashboard On behalf of 2-1-1 Orange County (211OC) as the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead for the Orange County CoC. 211OC started the development of the CoC Racial Equity Dashboard by receiving feedback from the Data and Performance Management Committee on the purpose of the dashboard, what data should be included on the dashboard, and how frequently the dashboard should be published. The discussions resulted in the development of an Agency Racial Equity Dashboard, as well as a CoC Racial Equity Dashboard which was presented and shared with the Policy, Procedures, and Standards (PPS) Committee, C4 Innovations, and the Results Academy Team members to review and provide feedback.

   CoC Board Members Comments:
   - Sandra Lozeau stated that as the representative on the Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) Seat on the CoC Board, it would be helpful to see subpopulation information broken down in the 'All Other Racial/Ethnic Groups' legend for the Racial Equity Trends Over Time graphs.
   - Eric Richardson suggested that looking at the data breakdown by different subpopulations for Days to Permanent Housing Placement metric would be helpful to review and impact change in the CoC. Eric Richardson also noted that the CoC Racial Equity Dashboard will be of
   - Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe inquired on Coordinated Entry System (CES) Denials by Provider graph and asked for an explanation as to why a housing opportunity would be denied by a Housing Provider.
   - George Searcy stated that in alignment with Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe's comment, there is understanding of the implications of the data in the CoC Racial Equity Dashboard and noted there is further data analysis needed to be educational for the public and to be used to make decisions. George Searcy shared that there is a need for another level of analysis for actionable intelligence. George Searcy emphasized that the CoC Racial Equity Dashboard is fantastic progress.
   - Chair Dawn Price asked a clarifying question on the provider's ability to pull comparable data to the CoC Racial Equity Dashboard.
   - Tim Shaw inquired on the intent of the CoC Racial Equity Dashboard and noted that many of the dashboards and plans are a work in progress, which require testing and refinement which is harder to accomplish when items are public facing. Tim Shaw emphasized that CoC Committees should use the CoC Racial Equity Dashboard as tool. Tim Shaw thanked staff for working on the CoC Racial Equity Dashboard.
   - Christina Weckerly Ramirez noted that in the current recommended action, there is no clarification that the dashboard is for internal use.

   Recommended Action A: Approve CoC Racial Equity Dashboard as recommended by the PPS Committee and Results Academy Team members.

   George Searcy motioned the recommended action. Tim Shaw seconded the recommended action. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Data Requests** – Traci Shirachi, CEO, The Mark, USA, Erin DeRycke, Vice President, Data Analytics, 2-1-1 Orange County and Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

On the September 14, 2022, meeting of at the CoC Board, The Mark USA's (The Mark) HMIS data request for the period July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2022, was approved. On March 31, 2023, The Mark submitted a similar data request to 211OC, HMIS Lead, requesting comparable data for an updated timeframe from July 1, 2022, to April 30, 2023, to understand how families are being supported and served through the Family Solutions Collaborative (FSC). The Mark will utilize the information to evaluate how the family system is performing and identify areas for improvement.

On April 12, 2023, Abt Associates submitted a data request to 211OC requesting HMIS comma-separated values (CSV) data exports for the period of October 1, 2019, to May 31, 2023, to assist Abt Associates in the development and testing of a new component of Eva, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) data quality product. Access to the data set will allow Abt Associates to test different scenarios as Eva is further developed and tested.

CoC Board Members Comments:
- Tim Shaw suggested that FSC return to the CoC Board to present further information related to The Mark's presentation of findings and areas where there is opportunities for improvement.
- Sandra Lozeau expressed that that data presented by The Mark starts to put action into plan and asked if more information can be provided in the future to the CoC Board. Regarding the Abt Associates data request, Sandra Lozeau asked for more information as to how the data will be used.
- Elida Sanchez noted that during the March 2023 meeting of the CoC Board, there was a public comment from McKinney-Vento and Foster Youth Programs representative about the family system and suggested including McKinney-Vento Liaisons in subsequent conversations. Elida Sanchez asked if Abt Associates will report back on the data analysis.
- Nishtha Mohendra shared The Mark's report findings of the family system was well received by the FSC but noted that action points are not in the works yet. Regarding the Abt Associates data request, Nishtha Mohendra inquired on the period of the data request and asked for more information as to why the year 2019 was being requested.
- Secretary Dr. Shauntina Sorrells provided additional context that Eva like the Stella M data tool are tools from HUD.

Recommended Action B: Approve The Mark's HMIS data request for the period of July 1, 2022, to April 30, 2023, to assist in ongoing evaluation of the family homeless response system on a system-level and family-level outcomes.

Tim Shaw motioned to approve the recommended action. Sandra Lozeau seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Recommended Action C: Approve Abt Associates' HMIS data request for the period of October 1, 2019, to May 31, 2023, to assist in the development and testing revisions to the Eva Systems Dashboards, use in the demonstration of Eva, develop and test revisions of Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) Export Specification, and demonstrate functionality of Stella P.

Robert "Santa Bob" Morse motioned to approve the recommended action. Elida Sanchez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Funding Opportunity** – Veronica Kelley, Chief, Mental Health & Recovery Services, OC Health Care Agency

Dr. Veronica Kelley provided background on BHBH which was signed into law in September 2022. The State of California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) will provide a total of $1.5 billion in funding to County Behavioral Health (BH) Departments and Tribal Entities to operate bridge housing settings to address the immediate and sustainable housings needs of people experiencing a behavioral health condition. The target population is Individuals with a serious mental illness (SMI) and/or substance use disorder (SUD) as outlined in Welfare & Institutions Code for County BH Departments, who are experiencing homelessness. At least 75% of the BHBH funds must be used for the costs of operating bridge housing and the funds may not be used to support existing services or housing supports that are currently reimbursed or eligible for reimbursement through Medi-Cal, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) or any other federal or local programs. The OC Health Care Agency (HCA) will be submitting the plan for BHBH funds on Friday, April 28, 2023.

CoC Board Members Comments:
- Tim Shaw noted the BHBH requirement of coordination with CoCs and asked if there was anything that the CoC Board can assist HCA with.
- Sandra Lozeau inquired about the plan for spending the BHBH funds and asked the expected number of beds that would be added with the BHBH funds.
- Kelly Bruno-Nelson asked regarding the 15 agencies that have been identified by HCA to partner with and inquired if the plan included spending the entire $35 million that Orange County is eligible to receive.
- Nishtha Mohendra asked for more information regarding the $75,000 per door maximum for capital projects.
- Chair Dawn Price asked for clarification as to whether the bed spaces would be Permanent Supportive Housing beds.
- Judson Brown noted that the plan is due on Friday, April 28, 2023, and inquired if HCA has had the opportunity to meet with CalOptima Health regarding the one-time funding. Judson Brown emphasized that there is a need to review the funding opportunities and eligible uses before a budget crisis hits and the community no longer has the one-time funds.
- Tim Shaw noted that landlord mitigation funds are likely not in the plan and commented that there is a tough time engaging landlords with landlord incentives with current programs in place.
- Sandra Lozeau commented that some cities and counties have Opioids Settlement funds to prevent overdose deaths specific to opioids and inquired if that would be another opportunity to braid and maximize funding.
- Elida Sanchez noted that there is a gap for male youth residential facilities and inquired if the bridge housing would only be for adults or can it also be an opportunity for youth.

4. **CoC Committee Updates** – CoC Committee Chairs
   a. **Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee** – Vice Chair Becks Heyhoe stated that the last PPS Committee Meeting took place in February 2023 and in the last meeting, there was recommendation to create an ad hoc to review the CoC Board nomination and selection process recommendations. The CoC Nominating and Selection Process Review ad hoc has been appointed.
   b. **Coordinated Entry System (CES) Steering Committee** – Christina Weckerly Ramirez shared that the CES Steering Committee reviewed the CES metrics report for the different populations data. During the last meeting, there was a question on college students, and it was noted that there was not much data for transitional aged youth, therefore, that is an area of improvement. The CES Steering Committee has a vision of providing more information for onboarding and training and achieving benchmarks of the data quality plan.
   c. **Housing Opportunities Committee** – Judson Brown stated that the Housing Opportunities Committee meet on April 7, 2023, and continues to consolidate information on efforts to provide housing opportunities in the CoC. This includes sharing information on special purpose vouchers.

At the last Housing Opportunities Committee, it was shared that HUD issued a Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative Public and Indian Housing (PIH) Notice which announces the availability of $30 million in new FYI funds. Judson Brown also emphasized on Assembly Bill 653 which creates a program that would provide resources to increase voucher utilizations, including housing navigation, landlord incentives, and security deposits.

d. **Service Provider Forum** – Nishtha Mohendra stated that the Service Provider Forum went through a name change and a consistent agenda with training, capacity building, and networking is still being built. In the last Service Provider Forum in March 2023, Alianza Translatinx provided an overview on the programs and services available at Alianza Translatinx. Social Services Agency (SSA) provided an update on the Medi-Cal redetermination process and how to support Medi-Cal members experiencing homelessness. Felicia Boehringer had also guided the Service Provider Forum through a Racial Equity Framework Session which received plentiful discussion.

e. **Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Collaborative Committee** – Secretary Dr. Shauntina Sorrells shared that the TAY Collaborative Committee was very intentional on expanding the network and reached out to someone to represent local tribal communities to ensure that there is full representation and diverse representation on the table. The TAY Collaborative Committee is receiving technical assistance from the National Network for Youth. Recently, a community needs survey was released and over 50 youth responded. The survey's data is currently being consolidated with the goal of being presented to the CoC Board. The Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Notice of Funding Opportunity was released and applications are due on June 27th, 2023. There are hopes that the Orange County CoC will be funded.

f. **Veterans Committee** – Eric Richardson stated that the first Veterans Committee meeting was held in March 2023 and will meet again in May to look at the data to get a better understanding of veterans' need, as there are many assumptions of what senior veterans need. Additionally, Eric Richardson shared the goal to provide training for outreach teams to improve the identification process for veterans.

g. **Lived Experience Advisory Committee** – Nichole Gideon, Chair of the Lived Experience Advisory, was absent excused from the meeting and did not provide an update.

CoC Board Members Comments:
- Sandra Lozeau inquired if honorable or dishonorable discharges have an impact on services that are provided.
- Christina Weckerly Ramirez stated that Strong Families, Strong Children do not explicitly ask if someone is a veteran, but instead frame the question if someone has ever served.

5. **FY2022 Longitudinal Systems Analysis Report** – Erin DeRycke, Vice President, Data Analytics, 211OC

Erin DeRycke provided information on the LSA Report, including data on the percentage of clients experiencing homelessness for the first time. The LSA Report is formally known as the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) that is compiled and submitted to the U.S. Congress by HUD. The AHAR is a national-level report that provides information about homeless service providers, people and households experiencing homelessness, and various characteristics of that population. It informs strategic planning for federal, state, and local initiatives designed to prevent and end homelessness.

CoC Board Members Comments:
- Eric Richardson inquired on the context of the Emergency Shelter data and acknowledged that different subpopulations will engage differently with other project types.
- Secretary Dr. Shauntina Sorrells inquired on the Child Only household type in the LSA Report legend and asked for the age range for that group.

- Ami Rowland asked if the CES Prioritization Policy had an impact on the LSA Report and emphasized that for young people, the data looks differently due to limited opportunities and programs (shelter and rapid rehousing) targeted for youth.

6. **Orange County Homelessness Updates** – Douglas Becht, Director of Care Coordination, and Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

   a. System of Care Updates – Douglas Becht provided the following System of Care Updates:
      - On March 29, 2023, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) announced the availability of approximately $736 million in Homekey Program Round 3 funding through the release of the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis from the release of the Homekey application on April 24, 2023, through July 28, 2023, or until the available funds are exhausted, whichever occurs first.
      - As part of the County of Orange's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in alignment with the state and federal guidance, the Office of Care Coordination implemented Project Roomkey in March 2020, by contracting with Illumination Foundation. Effective June 30, 2023, the operation of Project Roomkey will sunset. The decision to end the Project Roomkey took into consideration the utilization data for the program, as well as the COVID-19 trends in the community. The Office of Care Coordination and HCA Public Health Services will continue working with homeless service providers to identify strategies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 among the homeless population.
   b. Continuum of Care Updates – Sarah Jones provided the following Continuum of Care Updates:
      - Due to limited time these items were not shared verbally but available in the agenda packet provided. Sarah Jones noted that applicable updates will be shared at the next meeting of the CoC Board.

   <u>CoC Board Members Comment:</u>
   - Christina Weckerly Ramirez shared that May is Mental Health Awareness Month and their office brought pins and information booklets regarding Mental Health Awareness Month for anyone to take.

   <u>Public Comment:</u>
   - Paul Hyek stated that methadone clinics open at 4:30 a.m. but most shelters like Bridges at Kraemer's Place and Illumination Foundation shelters do not have "walk in, walk out" policies, therefore, there is a need to get bus passes for people to allow them to visit methadone clinics on time. Paul also shared that there is a need to ensure cleanliness at the shelters to prevent pests.

Sandra Lozeau motioned to adjourn the meeting. Nishtha Mohendra seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

7. **Next Meeting:** Wednesday, May 24, 2023, from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.