

ORANGE COUNTY  
CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
Wednesday, April 24, 2024  
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 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.**

**Virtual Meeting Option\*:**

**Zoom Meeting Link: [Click here for meeting link](#)  
Join by phone: +1 669 900 9128  
Webinar ID: 916 7797 8931**

***\*Listen-in option only***

## MINUTES

### Board Members

Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana  
LaVal Brewer, South County Outreach  
Kelly Bruno-Nelson, CalOptima Health  
Andrew Crowe, Scholarship Prep  
Nichole Gideon, Individual [Secretary]  
Becks Heyhoe, OC United Way  
Sandra Lozeau, City of Anaheim  
Frank Luna, Individual  
Melanie McQueen, PATH  
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Individual  
Talesha Payne, Jamboree Housing  
Jason Phillips, Individual  
Dawn Price, Friendship Shelter  
Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options  
Ami Rowland, Covenant House California  
George Searcy, City of Irvine  
Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Individual [Vice Chair]  
Tim Shaw, Individual [Chair]  
Christina Weckerly Ramirez, Health Care Agency

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](mailto: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.

Supporting documentation is available for review by the public at least 72 hours prior to regular meetings and at least 24 hours prior to special meetings of the CoC Board. Those wishing to review supporting documentation can visit the CoC Webpage [here](#) or the lobby of the CAS Building, located 601 N. Ross Street., Santa Ana, CA 92701-4599, and request a copy of the meeting materials from the Office of Care Coordination during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

**Call to Order** – Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, Vice Chair

Vice Chair Dr. Shauntina Sorrells called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

**Board Member Roll Call** – Nichole Gideon, Secretary

Present: Judson Brown, LaVal Brewer, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Andrew Crowe, Nichole Gideon, Sandra Lozeau, Frank Luna, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Maricela Rios-Faust, Ami Rowland, George Searcy, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez.

Absent Excused: Becks Heyhoe, Nishtha Mohendra, Talesha Payne, and Tim Shaw.

Christina Weckerly Ramirez arrived during Public Comments.

**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 agenda item presentation. 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 who are attending in person 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, including those listening in via the virtual meeting option, may also submit public comment by emailing [CareCoordination@ocgov.com](mailto:CareCoordination@ocgov.com). All comments submitted via email at least 24 hours before the start of the CoC Board meeting will be distributed to the CoC Board members for their consideration and all comments submitted prior to the meeting will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include “CoC Board Meeting Comment” in the email subject line.

- No public comments.

**Board Member Comments:** 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.

- Dawn Price drew attention to the Help Them Home fundraiser that is being held for Orange County community foundations and shared that people can look up the fundraiser to learn more about giving back to their favorite charities.
- Ami Rowland shared attendance of the Coalition for Youth in Sacramento where over 200 youth attended and discussed how to lift youth voices. Seven (7) legislative visits were conducted with people from Orange County. Ami Rowland also shared that the young people discussed Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention funds and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) budget cuts.

**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 CoC Board Meeting Minutes from March 27, 2024**
2. **Agencies and Jurisdictions Approved for Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Access**
  - a. Receive and file list of agencies and jurisdictions approved for HMIS access from January 13, 2024, through April 19, 2024.

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approve items 1 and 2 and on the Consent Calendar. Maricela Rios-Faust seconded the motion. Judson Brown, LaVal Brewer, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Andrew Crowe, Nichole Gideon, Sandra Lozeau, Frank Luna, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Maricela Rios-Faust, Ami Rowland, George Searcy, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

## **BUSINESS CALENDAR**

### **1. Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Update – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination**

The HHAP Program grant funding is administered by the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH). The HHAP Program provides local jurisdictions with funds to support regional coordination to expand or develop local capacity to address their immediate homelessness challenges as well as prevent and end to homelessness in their communities, including but not limited to projects related to permanent housing, interim housing, and services and system support. To support the Office of Care Coordination with the planning and programming of HHAP Program Rounds 1-4 remaining funds allocated to the Orange County CoC, the CoC Board approved the establishment of a HHAP Program ad hoc at the March 28, 2024, meeting. The HHAP Program ad hoc convened on April 17, 2024, and aims to bring recommendations for allocation of unspent funding from HHAP Program Rounds 1-4 at a future CoC Board meeting.

The HHAP Round 5 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) was made available in September 2023 with an application submission deadline of March 27, 2024. The Office of Care Coordination as the Administrative Entity completed the HHAP Round 5 grant application by the submission deadline, on behalf of the CoC and County, and worked alongside the cities of Anaheim, Irvine, and Santa Ana as regions were required to apply together and submit a single Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan. The Office of Care Coordination worked with the cities of Anaheim, Irvine, and Santa to develop an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that commits to participation and compliance with the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan. Approval of the HHAP Round 5 MOU between the Orange County CoC, the County of Orange, City of Anaheim, City of Irvine, and the City of Santa Ana will ensure that the regions are compliant with HHAP Round 5 application requirements and ensure commitment to participation and compliance with the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan.

Recommended Action b: Approve the HHAP Round 5 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Orange County CoC, the County of Orange, City of Anaheim, City of Irvine, and the City of Santa Ana.

Kelly Bruno-Nelson motioned to approve Recommended Action b. Dawn seconded the motion. Judson Brown, LaVal Brewer, Kelly Bruno-Nelson, Andrew Crowe, Nichole Gideon, Sandra Lozeau, Frank Luna, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Maricela Rios-Faust, Ami Rowland, George Searcy, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. The motion passed.

#### CoC Board Member Discussion:

- Sandra Lozeau shared that the City of Anaheim is slated to bring the MOU for approval soon. Sandra Lozeau stated that there is information coming from the State that potentially HHAP recipients may be eligible for the next round of Project Homekey funding.

### **2. CalOptima Health Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) Update and HMIS Data Request – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination and Kelly Bruno Nelson, Executive Director, Medi-Cal/CalAIM, CalOptima Health**

In September 2022 and January 2023, the CoC Board approved an HMIS data request from CalOptima Health (CalOptima) to receive regular and recurring (monthly) data downloads of all persons, including adults and

children, within HMIS to allow for member matching with CalOptima enrollment data. The original data request approved by the CoC Board in September 2022 was granted to support reporting for Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) – of which ended on March 31, 2024. CalOptima is returning to the CoC Board with a request to renew the data request for one (1) additional year, and to include additional data elements. Having continued access to HMIS data will enable CalOptima to provide or coordinate appropriate housing related support services to individuals and families whose records are found in both the HMIS system and are CalOptima members.

Recommended Action b: Approve the renewal of CalOptima Health’s HMIS data request, inclusive of additional data elements, for a period of one year to support CalOptima Health’s coordination of appropriate housing related supportive services to individuals and families in Orange County whose records are found in HMIS and are CalOptima Health members.

Robert “Santa Bob” Morse motioned to approve Recommended Action b. LaVal Brewer seconded the motion. Judson Brown, LaVal Brewer, Andrew Crowe, Nichole Gideon, Sandra Lozeau, Frank Luna, Melanie McQueen, Robert “Santa Bob” Morse, Jason Phillips, Dawn Price, Maricela Rios-Faust, Ami Rowland, George Searcy, Dr. Shauntina Sorrells, and Christina Weckerly Ramirez voted yes. Kelly Bruno-Nelson recused herself during discussion and abstained from voting. The motion passed.

CoC Board Member Discussion:

- Kelly Bruno-Nelson clarified that the only two new data elements that were being requested in the data request were elements 5.01 and 5.02 Kelly Bruno-Nelson shared that CalOptima was successful in drawing 90% of the HHIP funds that CalOptima was eligible for. Kelly Bruno-Nelson shared the CoC Board for approving the previous data requests as the data was integral and stated that a continued data request will allow CalOptima to continue connecting individuals.
- Dawn Price asked for clarification on the two new data elements for the data request.
- Vice Chair Dr. Shauntina Sorrells asked for clarification on the social security data element and asked if it was the full social security number.
- Christina Weckerly Ramirez shared a piece of information that was learned was that that CalOptima matches and identifies CalOptima members, as well as non-members.
- Maricela Rios-Faust shared that with the current VOCA budget cuts the reduced money in the overall system, when looking at CalOptima and CalAim, it is important to be thinking about the larger funding issue and the CoC needs to understand that better as a system.

**3. CoC Committee Updates – CoC Committee Chairs and Member**

- a. Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee – Maricela Rios-Faust shared updates on behalf of PPS Committee Chair Nishtha Mohendra. Maricela Rios-Faust shared that the PPS Committee had it’s first in-person meeting, however, due to the lack of quorum, the PPS Committee was unable to vote on items. The PPS Committee discussed the code of conduct and conflict of interest policies and expansion of committee membership. The PPS Committee meeting also received a presentation to review HMIS user fees and any proposed adjustments in the future. Maricela Rios-Faust noted that an update on the Request for Information (RFI) for the Development and Operations of a People with Lived Experience of Homelessness Financial Compensation Coordination Program was provided and stated that it would be a good idea to think of the barriers that may prevent people from applying for the RFI.
- b. Domestic Violence (DV) Committee – Maricela Rios-Faust shared that the DV Committee had it’s first in-person meeting and explained that the DV Committee has been very vocal on the difficulty of joining in-person meetings. Maricela Rios-Faust stated that a hybrid meeting model should be the solution and the Orange County CoC should look into other counties to identify hybrid models that are engaging. The DV Committee discussed VOCA budget cuts and how the populations should be prioritized in other

funding opportunities, as well as the metrics of information that people would like to see from CES for Survivors.

- c. Coordinated Entry System (CES) Steering Committee – Andrew Crowe shared metrics of Individual CES, Family CES, Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Registry, and Veteran Registry metrics from the March 2024 CES Steering Committee meeting. Andrew Crowe stated that 205 veterans were housed from 2/1/23 to 1/31/24.
- d. Housing Opportunities Committee – Judson Brown shared the metric of the 81% vouchers utilization and explained the importance of the information as it relates to housing updates. Judson Brown emphasized that housing ends homelessness and shared that relative updates are being provided at the Housing Opportunities Committee meetings. Judson Brown shared that personal research showed that it takes approximately 3 years and 9 months to finance permanent supporting housing meanwhile tenant-based vouchers take approximately 3 to 6 months. Judson Brown encouraged attendance to the next Housing Opportunities Committee meeting.
- e. Service Provider Forum – Melanie McQueen thanked the Health Care Agency for providing the space of the March 2024 Service Provider Forum meeting. The March 2024 Service Provider Forum had presentations from Friendly Center, CalOptima, and Sabil USA. The next Service Provider Forum will have a training on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and an update from Volunteers of America Los Angeles (VOALA) regarding Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP). Melanie McQueen shared that the Service Provider Forum has launched Peer Recognition Shout-Outs and individuals can nominate a peer that went above and beyond in their role.
- f. TAY Collaborative Committee – Ami Rowland shared that the March 2024 meeting of the TAY Collaborative Committee focused on discussion as to how to work better to collaborate. There was discussion led by Dee Balliet from Abt Global on youth action boards and the need to build momentum. Additionally, there was an update on the Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) application that was submitted by Orange County United Way. Ami Rowland shared upcoming presentation topics for the TAY Collaborative Committee meetings.
- g. Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC) – Nichole Gideon explained that the LEAC has been wanting to partner with other committees and most recently, was able to partner with the CES Steering Committee regarding their input on CES. Nichole Gideon shared that the LEAC is in the process of recruitment for a youth representative on the LEAC.

CoC Board Member Discussion:

- Christina Weckerly Ramirez asked how providers are selected for the service provider highlights in the Service Provider Forum. Christina Weckerly Ramirez shared that it would be fruitful to do an annual survey asking input from other providers on information or topics they would like to hear at the Service Provider Forum.
  - Kelly Bruno-Nelson shared that CalOptima attended a LEAC meeting as CalOptima noticed that their street medicine program failed to include the voices of people with lived experience, therefore, to rectify the problem, CalOptima obtained input from the LEAC.
  - Vice Chair Dr. Shauntina Sorrels gave an example of how the VOCA funding helps providers and shared that people should be alarmed at the VOCA funding cuts.
- 4. Orange County Homelessness Updates** – Doug Becht, Director of Office of Care Coordination and Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination
- a. System of Care Updates – Doug Becht provided the following System of Care Update:
    - On January 23, 2024, a MOU was established between the City of Anaheim (City) and the County of Orange (County) for the City to provide up to 50 emergency shelter beds during cold and

inclement weather for individuals experiencing homelessness from February 1, 2024, through April 15, 2024. The City's Cold Weather Emergency Shelter Program was activated six times over a 12-night period from February 1 to March 30, 2024. During this time, 67 persons experiencing homelessness were served. Of the six activations, five were due to rain and one was cold temperatures below 45 degrees.

- At the December 13, 2023, meeting, the Commission to End Homelessness received and filed the Homelessness Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program as proposed by Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento. The Office of Care Coordination issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) from qualified organizations to operate the Homeless Prevention and Stabilization Pilot (HPSP) Program. The RFP launched on March 21 and closed on April 11, 2024.
- The County Procurement Office is hosting an annual Supplier Outreach Day and is encouraging all interested vendors and service providers to attend. Attendees will gain knowledge on County procurement and contracting processes and will learn how to better partner with the County to serve the community. The event will be held on May 16, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Mile Square Park, Freedom Hall. Reservation for the event is required and can be completed on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-supplier-outreach-event-registration-758041531627>

b. CoC Updates – Sarah Jones provided the following CoC Updates:

- For the FY2023 NOFO, the Orange County CoC had a total application score of 158 compared to the national median score for all CoCs being 151.5. The highest score of any CoC was 185.5 and the lowest score for any CoC was 54.5.
- The Office of Care Coordination provides regular updates on the calendar of activities for the Orange County CoC. For the beginning of Quarter 2, highlighting activities and meetings.
- Upcoming meetings:
  - Coordinated Entry System Steering Committee (IN PERSON): Wednesday, May 1, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
    - Location: 1501 E. St Andrew Pl., Santa Ana, CA 92705
  - Transitional Age Youth Collaborative Committee (IN PERSON): Friday, May 10, 2024, from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
    - Location: Orangewood Foundation, 1575 17th St, Santa Ana, CA 92705
  - Policies, Procedures and Standards Committee (IN PERSON): Tuesday, May 14, 2024, from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
    - Location: County Administration South (CAS) Multipurpose Rooms 103/105, 601 N Ross St, Santa Ana, CA 92701
  - Service Provider Forum (IN PERSON): Thursday, May 16, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
    - Location: To be determined.
  - Veterans Committee (IN PERSON): Thursday, May 16, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
    - Location: Orange County United Way, 18012 Mitchell South, Irvine, CA 92614
- The Office of Care Coordination as the Collaborative Applicant and Administrative Entity of the Orange County CoC has issued a Request for Information (RFI) for the Development and Operations of a People with Lived Experience of Homelessness Financial Compensation Coordination Program. For more information, visit the following link: [Development and Operations of a People with Lived Experience of Homelessness Financial Compensation Coordination Program RFI](#)
- On April 17, 2024, Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced that the release of the HMIS Data Standards has been pushed back to FY 2027. The reason for this delay is to allow more time for communities and partners to provide feedback on what changes are necessary because it is critically important people impacted by the data weigh in. HUD will be

sending out a listserv on how people can better engage in the process of proposing changes to the HMIS Data Standards in the coming months.

CoC Board Member Discussion:

- Dr. Shauntina Sorrells asked for clarification on whether the consultant is for the strategic invest planning initiative.
- LaVal Brewer asked if the upcoming meetings were standing dates and asked if the Office of Care Coordination can send the list of upcoming meetings.
- Maricela Rios-Faust asked if the County can be the administrator of the Development and Operations of a People with Lived Experience of Homelessness Financial Compensation Coordination Program if there are no applicants for the RFI.
- Dawn Price shared personal experience of interest applying for the RFI and due to policies, it can be difficult to do the right thing.

Melanie McQueen motioned to adjourn the meeting. Robert “Santa Bob” Morse seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent. Meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.

**5. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, May 22, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.