

**ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE
HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING**

Friday, April 5, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location:
County Administration South (CAS)
Multipurpose Rooms 103/105
601 N Ross St, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Committee Chair: Judson Brown, City of Santa Ana
Committee Vice-Chair: January Johnson, Orange County Housing Authority

Committee Members

- Orange County Housing Authority
- Anaheim Housing Authority
- Santa Ana Housing Authority
- Garden Grove Housing Authority
- CalOptima Health
- Orange County Housing Finance Trust
- Orange County United Way
- Kennedy Commission
- Orange County Housing Advocacy Collaborative
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funded entitlement jurisdictions

Purpose: The Housing Opportunities Committee (Committee) will function as an advisory group to the Continuum of Care (CoC) Board and the Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee. The Committee assists in the overall coordination of efforts and information sharing to foster the development of housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness. The Committee will facilitate regional and systemwide collaboration in the development and implementation of affordable housing programs and opportunities that provide permanent housing solutions, such as housing choice vouchers, short-term rental assistance and/or permanent supportive housing, to reduce homelessness and to increase the supply of affordable and permanent supportive housing in Orange County. In addition to the facilitation and regional collaboration of housing opportunities in Orange County, the Committee will align its efforts with the Orange County CoC Board Vision.

MINUTES

Welcome and Introductions – Judson Brown, Chair and January Johnson, Vice Chair

Public Comments – Members of the public may address the Committee 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 Committee. 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 Committee, members of the public are to complete a Request to Address the Committee form prior to the beginning of each agenda item and submit it to CoC 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 24 hours before the start of the meeting will be distributed to the Committee members and all comments will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include "Housing Opportunities Committee Meeting Comment" in the email subject line.

1. Call To Order – Judson Brown, Chair and January Johnson, Vice Chair

Chair Judson Brown called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and shared the purpose and goals of the Committee.

2. Project-Based Housing Updates

a. Project Homekey Update – Nate Robbins, City of Costa Mesa

- Nate Robbins shared that currently a total of eighteen (18) households, of which twelve (12) are from Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) and six (6) are from Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), have moved into apartments at Mesa Vista, a former Motel 6 and Homekey project. Additionally, there are eight (8) households approved and ready to move in, pending inspections. All forty (40) Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units will be occupied within the next few weeks. Community Development Partners will be applying for tax credits to complete Phase 2, which will be forty-seven (47) general affordable units for Costa Mesa residents at or below 50% AMI. The estimated completion of Phase 2 is December 2025. Plans to convert the Travelodge on Bristol Street in the City of Costa Mesa, into 76 units of PSH, is pending an award for a Homekey project. If not awarded, an alternative plan to apply for tax credits will be enacted.

b. Project-Based Voucher Pipeline – Public Housing Authority (PHA) Representatives

- Chair Judson Brown provided background on the PBV program
- Chair Judson Brown provided PBV Pipeline updates for Orange County Housing Authority (OCHA)
- Miriam Zepeda provided PBV Pipeline updates for Anaheim Housing Authority (AHA)
- Chair Judson Brown provided PBV Pipeline updates for Santa Ana Housing Authority (SAHA)
- Chair Judson Brown provided PBV Pipeline updates for Garden Grove Housing Authority (GGHA)

Committee Discussion:

- Michael Shepherd inquired about the restrictions for individuals at the FX Residences project.

Public Comments:

- Ann Ngoc Nguyen provided a lived experience perspective of being on the waitlist for a housing voucher. Ann Ngoc Nguyen shared additional resource opportunities available.

3. Tenant-Based Housing Updates

a. Special Purpose Voucher Updates – PHA Representatives

- Chair Judson Brown provided background on the special purpose vouchers: Mainstream Vouchers (MS5), VASH, Family Unification Program (FUP), and Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) vouchers.
- Chair Judson Brown provided updates for OCHA.
- Miriam Zepeda provided updates for AHA.
- Chair Judson Brown provided updates for SAHA.
- Chair Judson Brown provided updates for GGHA.

Public Comments:

- A member of the public questioned why the Housing Authorities do not hire consultants and urges them to consider this. A member of the public asked the AHA on the availability of their project-based vouchers.
- David McCann questioned why OCHA reallocated special purpose vouchers to project-based vouchers and inquired about the number of vouchers being distributed to the county.

b. CalAIM Update – Mia Arias, CalOptima Health

- Mia Arias provided an overview of the 14 community supports available through the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) CalAIM implementation and Enhanced Case Management (ECM). CalOptima Health is currently partnering with approximately 120 organizations.

Public Comments:

- David McCann stated concerns for the accessibility of data provided by CalOptima Health and inquired where the data is being published.
- A member of the public inquired about the CalAIM referral process for a family household.

4. Funding, Program, and Policy Updates

a. Federal and State Legislation Updates – Cesar Covarrubias and Julian Gutierrez, The Kennedy Commission

- Cesar Covarrubias provided the following Federal and State Legislative updates:
 - Legislative AB 1657 is a \$10 billion housing bond will be allocated in this way: \$7 billion for the Multifamily Housing Program \$1.5 billion for preservation programs \$1 billion for homeownership programs. \$500 million for Tribal and Farmworker program.
 - The reintroduction and passing of AB 1657 is an effective solution to the Governor’s proposed cuts to the Multifamily Housing Program.

- Currently re-referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations as a two-year bill. Bill updates for Renter Protections and Construction/Preservation of Affordable Housing.
- The March 2024 ballot included Prop 1, which refocuses billions of dollars in existing funds to prioritize Californians experiencing the deepest mental health needs, living in encampments, or suffering extreme substance use concerns.
- The November 2024 ballot measures include ACA 1 (Aguiar Curry) and ACA 13 (Ward).
- For Fiscal Year 2024-25, the Governor proposed to cut \$1.2 billion of the \$5.2 billion from General Fund investments since 2019.
- The Governor has proposed to maintain the total of \$1.1 billion General Fund for the Homelessness Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program with the caveat of delaying \$260 million in bonus funding from 2023-24 to 2025-26. Currently, there is not a HHAP Round 6 being proposed.
- The California Affordable Housing Budget is estimated to see a one third reduction in the amount of production of affordable homes, totaling a loss of 6,400 homes. California will be leaving \$1.6 billion of federal resources on the table.

5. CoC Updates – Sarah Jones, Office of Care Coordination

- Sarah Jones provided the following CoC updates:
 - **Homelessness Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program Request for Proposals (RFP):** The County of Orange’s Office of Care Coordination is accepting proposals for a Homelessness Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program. The program aims to help eligible households at risk of homelessness by providing short-term financial assistance and robust case management, with a focus on quick implementation and leveraging additional funds. Interested organizations are invited to carefully review the project details and related information before submitting proposals.
 - **Development and Operations of a People with Lived Experience of Homelessness Financial Compensation Coordination Program Request for Information (RFI):** The Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant and Administrative Entity of the Orange County CoC, has released an RFI for a Development and Operations of a People with Lived Experience of Homelessness Financial Compensation Coordination Program. The RFI may lead to a partnership with one or more respondents for the requested program activities. Development and Operations of a People with Lived Experience of Homelessness Financial Compensation Coordination Program RFI is available on OpenGov Procurement and proposals must be submitted by a revised deadline of April 26, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time (PT).
 - **2023 Orange County Supportive Housing Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) First Amendment:** OC Housing and Community Development (OCHCD) announced the release of the [2023 Supportive Housing Notice of Funding Availability \(NOFA\) First Amendment](#), making available up to \$32.7 million dollars of funding to

promote the acquisition, new construction, and acquisition/rehabilitation of supportive housing and will also provide up to 218 Housing Choice, Mainstream and/or Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Project Based Vouchers for extremely low-income households experiencing homelessness. OCHCD will accept applications via electronic submittal per the terms of the NOFA. The funds will be available until the NOFA closes, is replaced by a new NOFA, or until all available funds are committed via Board of Supervisors action, whichever occurs first.

- **Lived Experience Advisory Committee Recruitment: Youth Representative:** The Office of Care Coordination, on behalf of the Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC), is facilitating the recruitment and selection process for a Youth Representative (ages 18 - 24) to serve on the LEAC. Interested youth are invited to submit the LEAC Youth Representative Interest Form via SurveyMonkey.
- **Trauma-Informed Data Collection in HMIS Webinar** - Abt Associates, in partnership with the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH), has developed a webinar on Trauma Informed and Equitable Approaches to Data Collection for grantees and other entities that collect information from people served by the homelessness system and enter data into Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). The webinar introduces grantees of California state-funded homelessness programs to concepts related to trauma and its presentation, defines trauma-informed and equitable approaches, and applies this perspective to inform best practices in data collection for HMIS.
- **2024 VAWA and Survivor Housing Community Conversations** - HUD is conducting a series of community dialogues focused on effectively implementing the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and survivor-centered housing at various levels. Each conversation will showcase a diverse panel of system leaders, project staff, and individuals with lived experiences from the homelessness response and victim services realms.

6. Coordinated Entry System (CES) Updates

- a. **County-Wide Performance Metrics – Rebecca Ricketts, Office of Care Coordination**
 - There are currently 6,580 active individual households enrolled in CES. Of the households enrolled, 3,378 are on the Community Queue.
 - There are currently 519 active family households enrolled in CES. Of the households enrolled, 366 are on the Community Queue.
 - There are 204 veterans on the Veteran Registry as of March 2024, and, in the last 12 months, 212 veterans have been housed in permanent, stable housing.
- b. **Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) Registry – Rebecca Ricketts, Office of Care Coordination**
 - There are currently 149 Active TAY Households enrolled in the CES Project.
 - In the previous 12 months, 190 TAY were permanently housed and exited from CES.
 - 23% of TAY reporting a permanent disability have verified their permanent disabling condition.

Committee Discussion:

- Chair Judson Brown inquired about the definition of TAY, as it relates to foster youth. Chair Judson Brown stated that there are currently enough VASH vouchers to serve all veterans on the Veteran Registry.
- Cesar Covarrubias inquired if there is any additional information that is gathered in the CES assessment survey.

Public Comments:

- David McCann inquired if CES data can be published by city.

Next Meeting: Friday, June 14, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. In-person with location to be determined.