

**ORANGE COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, June 18, 2024
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Location:
**The Village at 17th Street
Large Community Room
1505 17th St, Santa Ana, CA 92705**

Virtual Meeting Option*:
Zoom Meeting Link: [Click here for meeting link](#)
Join by phone: +1 669 444 9171, 97975623556#
Webinar ID: 979 7562 3556

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

Committee Chair: Maricela Rios-Faust, Human Options

Committee Members:

Jude Abusham, Student in Orange County
Brateil Aghasi, WISEPlace
Patience Biosah, Individual
Barbara Burke, Individual
Deborah Kraft, Lived Experience Advisory Committee, Orange County Family Violence Council's (OCFVC) Homelessness Domestic Violence (DV)-Sexual Assault (SA) Task Force, Housing is a Human Right OC (HHROC), Stronger Women United, DV Policy Advocate
Mark Lee, Radiant Futures
Nishtha Mohendra, Families Forward
Lydia Nationalesta, City of Lake Forest
Wendy Seiden, OCFVC Homelessness-DV-SA Task Force
Tianna Terry, Friendship Shelter, Individual Coordinated Entry System (CES)
Cynthia Thouvenel, Ohlone Tribe Non-Profit
Katherine Tan, Individual
Sharon Wie, Interval House

MINUTES

Welcome and Introductions – Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair

Present: Chair Maricela Rios-Faust, Brateil Aghasi, Mark Lee, Wendy Seiden and Tianna Terry

Absent Excused: Deborah Kraft, Nishtha Mohendra, Katherine Tan and Sharon Wie

Absent: Jude Abusham, Barbara Burke, Lydia Nationalesta and Cynthia Thouvenel

Public Comments – Members of the public may address the DV 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 DV Committee. Public 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 DV 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 Continuum of Care (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 DV Committee members and all comments will be added to the administrative records of the meeting. Please include “Domestic Violence Committee Meeting Comment” in the email subject line.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approve the DV Committee Meeting Minutes from February 20, 2024.
2. Approve the DV Committee Meeting Minutes from April 16, 2024.

**Committee did not have quorum and minutes were not approved*

BUSINESS CALENDAR

1. CES for Survivors Update – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Sarah Jones presented an update on the CES for Survivors. On May 9, 2024, the Office of Care Coordination released the Coordinator for CES for Survivors Request for Proposals (RFP). Through this RFP, the Office of Care Coordination was seeking proposals from qualified organizations to serve as the Coordinator for the CES for Survivors for all three Service Planning Areas (SPA) North, Central, and South in Orange County. On May 30, 2024, the RFP for the Coordinator for CES for Survivors closed. Currently, the Office of Care Coordination is working on next steps of the RFP process.

Committee Discussion:

- Wendy Seiden inquired about the collaboration between the Office of Car Coordination and the coordinator for CES for Survivors.
- Tiana Terry asked if CES for Survivors would operate similarly to the current CES.
- Chair Maricela Rios-Faust inquired about the current procedures in place for the CES for Survivors.

2. Orange County 2024 Point In Time Count – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination and Maricela Rios-Faust, Chair

- a. Review 2024 Point In Time data related to domestic violence subpopulation in Orange County

Sarah Jones presented on the data from the Orange County 2024 Point In Time (PIT) Count. The County of Orange in partnership with the Orange County CoC conducted the sheltered count the night of Monday, January 22, 2024. The unsheltered count process took place over three days, Tuesday, January 23, 2024, through January 25, 2024. The 2024 PIT Count data showed that 10.01% of unsheltered adults identified as experiencing domestic violence and 10.40% of sheltered adults identified as experiencing domestic violence. In comparison to the 2022 PIT Count, the domestic violence subpopulation increased by 30.87% in the 2024 PIT Count. Data Summary: The 2024 PIT Count Data Summary can be found at the Care Coordination Additional Documents webpage at the following link: <https://ceo.ocgov.com/sites/ceo/files/2024-05/2024%20PIT%20Summary%20-%20FINAL%205.16.24.pdf>

Committee Discussion:

- Chair Maricela Rios-Faust stated that the data point regarding the number of unsheltered adults (10.01%) and sheltered adults (10.40%) who reported experiencing domestic violence is calculated based on those who responded to the PIT survey question about domestic violence. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust suggested asking all survey participants, regardless of gender, if they are experiencing domestic violence. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust suggested that it would be beneficial to understand the reasons behind an individual's reluctance to share whether they were experiencing domestic violence. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust suggested asking individuals if they have experienced domestic violence while being homeless.
- Wendy Seiden shared about previous experience when working with women who experienced domestic violence on the riverbed. Wendy Seiden shared several examples of why an individual may not disclose if they are experiencing domestic violence. Wendy Seiden suggested the PIT Count should be longer than ten days, to get a more accurate count of people experiencing homelessness.
- Mark Lee inquired if the PIT survey asked about human trafficking in addition to domestic violence.

3. CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Feedback – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager; Felicia Boehringer, CoC Administrator; and Jasmin Miranda, CoC Staff Specialist, Office of Care Coordination

Sarah Jones, Felicia Boehringer and Jasmin Miranda presented on the upcoming Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 CoC Program NOFO. The CoC Program NOFO competition, administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on an annual basis, invites CoCs nationwide to compete for funding. The process starts with CoC registration, followed by the review of Grant Inventory Worksheets (GIW) and the release of the CoC Program NOFO. In Orange County, the Office of Care Coordination serves as the Collaborative Applicant and manages the local competition process. The Consolidated Application, submitted to HUD, includes the final Project Priority Listing and the CoC Application with narrative and data-related responses. Key entities involved in the process include the County of Orange as the Collaborative Applicant, Orange

County United Way 2-1-1 Orange County as the HMIS Lead, CoC NOFO Ad Hoc, and CoC Board. These entities develop NOFO policies, review and evaluate project applications, and approve final Project Priority Listings.

The Orange County CoC currently holds \$3,297,106 in Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus funding for various projects including Joint Transitional Housing/Permanent Housing Rapid Rehousing (Joint TH/PH-RRH), Rapid Rehousing (RRH), and Coordinated Entry System Supportive Services Only (SSO) projects. The increased funding for FY 2023 is attributed to the rise in Fair Market Rent (FMR). During the CoC Program NOFO process, CoCs can renew existing projects, apply for new projects, and reallocate resources to better serve people experiencing homelessness. The Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC, releases an application for CoC Renewal Projects and Request for Proposals (RFP) for CoC Bonus, DV Bonus, and Reallocation Projects. DV Bonus eligible projects serve survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who qualify as homeless. Prior to releasing the DV Bonus RFP, the CoC NOFO ad hoc sets recommendations of priorities to the CoC Board. In FY 2023, the CoC NOFO ad hoc recommended the priority of soliciting new RRH and Joint TH/PH-RRH projects.

Committee Discussion:

- Wendy Seiden sought clarification on how new projects and renewal projects are funded.
- Chair Maricela Rios-Faust provided a thorough explanation of the allocation process and bonus funding. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust inquired if it would be possible for the DV Bonus to be used for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).
- Mark Lee expressed support for the Joint TH/PH-RRH project type. Mark Lee inquired about the existence of a baseline standard for each program. Mark Lee inquired if there is a possibility to prioritize PSH for DV Bonus funding.
- Bateil Aghasi stated that Joint TH/PH-RRH projects need up to 24 months to fully execute. Bateil Aghasi shared that the City of Santa Ana has allocated 15 units for set aside vouchers specifically for survivors of domestic violence.

Public Comment:

- Sara Behmerwohld highlighted that over the past two years, the CoC Program NOFO elevated individualized support for the DV Bonus funding recipients. Sara Behmerwohld stated that the current Orange County CoC renewal project scoring criteria is not in alignment with HUD's individualized approach for an individual experiencing domestic violence.

4. CoC Updates – Sarah Jones, CoC Manager, Office of Care Coordination

Sarah Jones presented the following CoC updates:

- **FY 2024 CoC Program NOFO** - The upcoming FY 2024 CoC Program NOFO is anticipated to be released by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in early Summer 2024. On June 11, 2024, the Office of Care Coordination, as the Collaborative Applicant for the Orange County CoC, released the FY 2024 Agency Administrative Review for CoC Funded Agencies in preparation for the FY 2024 CoC Program NOFO competition. To visit the FY 2024 CoC Program NOFO webpage, please visit <https://ceo.ocgov.com/fy2024cocnofo>

To learn more about the Orange County CoC Board's preparations leading up to the FY 2024 CoC Program NOFO, please reference board meeting agendas and materials by visiting the [2024 CoC Board Webpage](#)

- **Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) NOFO** - On June 6, 2024, HUD announced the release of the YHDP NOFO, making approximately \$72 million available nationally to support selected communities in preventing and ending youth homelessness. The Office of Care Coordination aims to strengthen the YHDP Round 7 funding application for the Orange County CoC by capturing progress made towards youth engagement in decision making and working closely with local partners. The YHDP application must be submitted by August 29, 2024.
- **2024 VAWA and Survivor Housing Community Conversations** - HUD is hosting a series of community conversations focused on successfully implementing the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and survivor centered housing at the system, project, and human levels. Each conversation will feature a diverse panel of system leaders, project staff, and people with lived experiences from both the homelessness response and victim services worlds. For any questions on the VAWA and Survivor Housing Community Conversations, please email trainings@hudexchange.info

Committee Discussion:

- Chair Maricela Rios-Faust went provided brief overview of the Brown Act requirements and exemptions for the committee, specifically as it relates to allowances for virtual meetings.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 20, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at The Village at 17th Street, Large Community Room located at 1505 17th St, Santa Ana, CA 92705